FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-032
Friday
19 February 1993

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-93-032 CONTENTS *19 February 1993*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

- Business Leader Urges Opening of Rice Market *[KYODO]* 1
- Keidanren Head Says Yen's Rise Tolerable *[KYODO]* 1
- 'No Factors' To Boost Yen Against Dollar *[KYODO]* 1
- Mori Vows All-Out Efforts To Boost Imports *[KYODO]* 1
- Hayashi Blames Speculation for Yen's Rise *[KYODO]* 1
- Miyazawa Discusses Foreign Exchange Market *[KYODO]* 2
- Beef Imports Said To Top 400,000 Tons in 1992 *[KYODO]* 2
- Butrus-Ghali Calls Visit 'Very Constructive' *[KYODO]* 2
- Spokesman Summarizes Butrus-Ghali Visit *[KYODO]* 3
- SDF Corps To Replace Personnel in Cambodia *[KYODO]* 3
- Taiwanese Delegation Head Meets Yoshiro Mori *[KYODO]* 3
- Okinawa Seeks Return of Land Leased To U.S. *[KYODO]* 4
- Okinawa Assembly Urges East China Sea Safety *[KYODO]* 4
- Hokkaido Prefecture To Expand Sakhalin Ties *[KYODO]* 4
- Hitachi Zosen Sets Up Scrapping Firm in SRV *[KYODO]* 4
- Bonds Export Agreement Signed With Ankara *[Ankara TV]* 5
- LDP Begins Budget Debate Despite Boycott *[KYODO]* 5
- Diet Deliberations on Budget Reopen 19 Feb *[KYODO]* 5
- Diet Standoff Widens Over Witnesses Issue *[KYODO]* 5
- Agency Says Local Economies Remain Sluggish *[KYODO]* 6
- Mieno Says Money Supply To Pick Up Gradually *[KYODO]* 6
- Cabinet Adopts Plan on Shorter Working Hours *[KYODO]* 6

Mongolia

- Results of Ochirbat's Russian Visit Approved *[Moscow ITAR-TASS]* 7
- MPRP Endorses Statement Condemning Stalinism *[Moscow ITAR-TASS]* 7
- June Direct Elections for President Planned *[AFP]* 7
- Government Provides Private Agriculture Funds *[Moscow ITAR-TASS]* 7

North Korea

- JNCC Head: IAEA Inspection 'Totally Unjust' *[Pyongyang Radio]* 8
- Team Spirit 'Blocking' North-South Agreement *[KCNA]* 9
- U.S. Said Developing New Laser Weapon *[KCNA]* 9
- Cambodian Delegation Continues DPRK Visit 9
  - Kim Il-song Receives Delegation *[KCNA]* 9
  - Group Presents Gift to Kim Il-song *[KCNA]* 9
  - Presents Gift to Kim Chong-il *[KCNA]* 10
- British Party Leader Comments on Visit to DPRK *[KCNA]* 10
  - UK Party Head Departs 18 Feb *[KCNA]* 10
- Kim Chong-il Receives Birthday Note From 'Arafat *[Pyongyang Radio]* 10
- Foreign Crewmen Hold Birthday Celebration *[KCNA]* 11
- Chongnyon Holds Central Meeting in Tokyo 15 Feb *[KCNA]* 11
- 8th LSWYK Congress Continues in Pyongyang 12
  - Attendees, Agenda Detailed *[KCNA]* 12
  - Chairman on Youth's 'Moral Traits' *[KCNA]* 13
  - Chairman Discusses Youth's Loyalty *[KCNA]* 13

- Calls for Ideological Education *[KCNA]* 14
- Calls for Youth To Defend Country *[KCNA]* 14
- Stresses Unity of Youth *[KCNA]* 14

South Korea

- ROK, DPRK Said To Ask Jimmy Carter To Mediate *[TONG-A ILBO 19 Feb]* 15
  - Ministry Denies Asking for Help *[YONHAP]* 15
- PRC 'Expects' IAEA To Negotiate With Both Koreas *[CHOSON ILBO 19 Feb]* 16
- IAEA Discounts DPRK Claim of 'Inconsistency' *[YONHAP]* 16
- Vice Minister: DPRK Nuclear Threat 'Exaggerated' *[KYONGHYANG SINMUN 19 Feb]* 16
- DPRK Engineers To Attend IAEA Negotiations *[Seoul Radio]* 17
- Premier: Koreas Should Solve Problems Themselves *[YONHAP]* 17
- Countries Oppose Sale of DPRK Items by ROK *[YONHAP]* 17
- Dailies Comment on Clinton's Address to Congress 18
- YONHAP: USFK To Lay Off 1,005 Korean Employees 18
- Committee Agrees To Computerize U.S. Military Records *[YONHAP]* 19
- U.S. Embassy Advocates Semiconductor Resolution *[YONHAP]* 19
- U.S. Video Groups Urge PFC Listing for ROK *[THE KOREA TIMES 18 Feb]* 19
- ROK To Withdraw Boats Near Canadian Coast *[CHUNGANG ILBO 12 Feb]* 20
- Canadian Dumping Suit Concerns Steel Industry *[YONHAP]* 20
- Russia Defaults on Jan-Feb Interest Payments *[YONHAP]* 20
- ROK, Russia Conclude Aluminium Ingot Contract *[YONHAP]* 21
- Aerospace Companies Seek Russian Joint Ventures *[YONHAP]* 21
- PRC Envoy Calls for More ROK Investment *[YONHAP]* 21
- Trade Gap Between PRC, ROK $10 Billion *[YONHAP]* 22
- PRC Official Promotes Tangshan City in Seoul *[THE KOREA TIMES 18 Feb]* 22
- Legality of Japan Annexation of Korea Questioned *[YONHAP]* 22
- Japan To Explain Nuclear Policy in Regional Talks *[YONHAP]* 23
- ROK Receives Final Part of Hiroshima Compensation *[YONHAP]* 23
- SRV Envoy: ROK Inflicted 'Massive Damage' in War *[YONHAP]* 23
- SRV Seeks $120 Million Loan for Road Repair *[YONHAP]* 24
- Lucky-Goldstar Installs SRV Phone Switch System *[CHOSON ILBO 13 Feb]* 24
- Chartered Plane To Fly SRV Workers to Tunis *[YONHAP]* 24
- ROK Joins Commission on Sustainable Development *[YONHAP]* 24
- ROK Applies for OECD Committee Observer Status *[YONHAP]* 25
- DPRK Changes Tourist Policies for Foreigners *[YONHAP]* 25
- Top Environmental Policy Body Called 'Inept' *[THE KOREA TIMES 17 Feb]* 25
- President To Restructure Intelligence Bodies *[YONHAP]* 26
- No Tae-u's Diplomatic Achievements Assessed *[YONHAP]* 26
- Kim Tong-kil Becomes UPP Chairman; 7 Leave Party *[YONHAP]* 27
- DP Announces 11 Mar National Convention *[YONHAP]* 27
- Largest Student Group Reorganized Under New Name *[THE KOREA TIMES 13 Feb]* 28
- Public Officials Said To Accept Hyundai Secret Fund *[YONHAP]* 28
- Development Bank Chairman Submits Resignation *[YONHAP]* 28
- Former General To Resign as Tobacco Company Head *[YONHAP]* 29
- Samsung Admits Laser Diode Developed by Russians *[YONHAP]* 29
- 'New Material' for Semiconductors Developed *[YONHAP]* 29

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

- Khin Nyunt: Nobel Laureates Met Insurgents *[Rangoon Radio]* 30
- Thai Delegation Arrives for Border Talks *[Rangoon Radio]* 30
- Indonesian Minister, Delegation Arrive 18 Feb *[Rangoon Radio]* 30
  - Meet Deputy Premier *[Rangoon Radio]* 31

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Commentary Views Mahathir's 'Fruitful' Tour *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 31
Mahathir Remarks on Restructuring UN Welcomed *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 31
Decline in Trade With PRC Worries Government *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 17 Feb]* 32
Government Expresses Concern Over Thai Intrusion *[Kuala Lumpur Radio]* 33
Armed Soldiers Raze Thai Homes, Shops on Border *[Bangkok THE NATION 19 Feb]* 33
12th Air Exercise With Thailand Closes *[BERNAMA]* 33
King Offers Investment 'Gateway' for Hungary *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 34
    Investment, Air, Visa Accords Signed *[BERNAMA]* 34
Kelantan Sultan Denies Involvement in Politics *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 18 Feb]* 34

Singapore

Paper Views Burma's Reaction to Laureates' Appeal *[THE STRAITS TIMES 19 Feb]* 35
Diplomatic Relations Established With Georgia *[THE STRAITS TIMES 18 Feb]* 35
Editorial Views Philippine President's Visit *[THE STRAITS TIMES 18 Feb]* 36
Goh, Victoria State Premier Discuss 'Partnership' *[Singapore Radio]* 36

Cambodia

'Secret Agents' Kill FUNCINPEC Member *[Radio VGNUFC]* 36
Suspected KR Ransack Kompong Thom Village *[AFP]* 37
    UN, 'International' Appeal Made *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 37
KR General Urges Peace Accord Implementation *[Radio VGNUFC]* 37
Sihanouk Favors UNTAC Presence After Polls *[Bangkok BANGKOK POST 19 Feb]* 38
Vietnamese Said Brought to Koh Kong Province *[Radio VGNUFC]* 39
Defense Spokesman Denies UNTAC, AFP Reports *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 39
Hor Namhong Warns Against Internal Interference *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 40
Government Offensive Continues With UN 'Aid' *[AFP]* 40
Hor Namhong Receives French Delegation 15 Feb *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 41

Indonesia

Alatas Expects Cambodian Elections To Take Place *[Jakarta Radio]* 41
Turkish Minister Signs Civil Aviation Agreement *[Ankara TV]* 42
    Discusses UN 'Double Standard' *[Jakarta Radio]* 42
Suharto Officially Appoints New ABRI Chief *[Jakarta Radio]* 42
No Decision Made on Agency To Launch Palapa-C *[Jakarta Radio]* 42

Laos

Central Committee Plenary Session Concludes *[Vientiane Radio]* 42
Thai Interior Minister Calls on Leaders, Departs *[Vientiane Radio]* 43
Government Subsidizes Luang Namtha Province *[Vientiane Radio]* 43

Philippines

Beijing Opposes Filipino-Taiwan Business Links *[Manila Radio]* 43
Dutch Legislator To Ask NDF Leaders To Return *[MALAYA 19 Feb]* 43
High-Ranking NPA Leader Surrenders to Ramos *[Quezon City TV]* 44
Rebellion Case Against Enrile, Honasan Dropped *[Manila Radio]* 44
Police Chief Responds to Ramos Call To Resign *[Manila Radio]* 44
Ramos Urges Vigilance for Peace, Order *[Quezon City Radio]* 45
Ramos Urges Integrity, Military Professionalism *[Manila Radio]* 45
Ramos Forms Maguindanao Advisory Council *[MANILA STANDARD 13 Feb]* 45
Senate Sets 8 Mar Muslim Mindanao Elections *[Manila Radio]* 45

Thailand

Minister To Visit Burma To Show 'No Conflicts' *[THE NATION 17 Feb]* 46
    Leaves for Border Talks *[Radio VOFA]* 46
Editorials View Nobel Laureates' Visit *[THAI RAT 18 Feb, etc.]* 46
Kan Defends Military's Views on Visit *[Bangkok Radio]* 47
    Denies Arms Deals With Burma *[THE NATION 19 Feb]* 48
Defense Minister: 'No Arms Deal With Burma' *[Bangkok TV]* 48
Nobel Laureates Vow To Pressure Burmese Junta *[THE NATION 19 Feb]* 48
Paper Urges Arms Embargo on Burma *[THE NATION 19 Feb]* 49
Khmer Repatriation Expected To Finish by Apr *[Bangkok TV]* 49
    Border Refugee Camps To Close in March *[BANGKOK POST 18 Feb]* 50
Feature Discusses Relations With Hungary *[Bangkok Radio]* 50
Hungary Trade 'Gateway' to E. Europe, Cambodia *[THE NATION 16 Feb]* 51
Hungarian President Ends Visit, Departs *[Bangkok TV]* 51

Vietnam

Radio Comments on Khmer Rouge Rejecting Elections *[Hanoi International]* 52
President Lu Duc Anh Receives Thai Princess *[VNA]* 52
Second International Bank Opens Hanoi Branch *[VNA]* 52
Skilled Labor Exported to South Korea, Japan *[Hanoi TV]* 52
DPRK Embassy Discusses Nuclear Inspections *[VNA]* 53
Higher Education Agreement Signed With Russia *[VNA]* 53
Mongolian Economic Delegation Visits 14-18 Feb *[VNA]* 53
French Ambassador Concludes Term *[VNA]* 53
Party Central Committee Resolutions Publicized *[VNA]* 53
Central Committee Adopts Resolution on Education *[VNA]* 54
Asian-Pacific Economic Center Founded *[Hanoi TV]* 54
AIT Opens Technology Training Research Center *[VNA]* 55
Bac Thai Television Relay Stations Completed *[Hanoi Radio]* 55
Vo Van Kiet Visits Ba Ria-Vung Tau, Dong Nai *[Hanoi Radio]* 55
Police Logistics Department Sets Plan for 1993 *[Hanoi TV]* 56
Feb Issue of TAP CHI CONG SAN Reviewed *[Hanoi TV]* 56
Technical Creativity Fund Established *[VNA]* 57
Government Publishes Official Gazette *[VNA]* 57

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Government Welcomes Talks on Regional Security *[AFP]* 58
Patrol Boat Construction Contract Signed *[Melbourne International]* 58
Canberra Launches Satellite TV Service to Asia *[Melbourne International]* 58
News Producer Comments on New TV Broadcasts *[KYODO]* 59

Solomon Islands

Minister Reminds PNG Regime of Autonomy Promise *[Melbourne International]* 60

Vanuatu

President Leaves for New Zealand Medical Check *[AFP]* 60

Japan

Business Leader Urges Opening of Rice Market

OW1902131193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1257 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Japanese business leader Masaru Hayami said Friday that Japan should open its rice market to imports to bring world trade talks to a successful conclusion.

Hayami, president of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives, also attributed the current appreciation of the yen chiefly to Japan's failure to make definite and effective measures to cut its trade surplus. Speaking at a news conference, he cited a growing feeling in Europe and the United States that Japan's ballooning surplus may continue to increase in the months ahead.

Hayami said, however, he does not think the yen will grow much stronger against the U.S. dollar in a single stroke.

Keidanren Head Says Yen's Rise Tolerable

OW1702105793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0935 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 17 KYODO—Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), said Wednesday the yen's mild rise against the U.S. dollar in foreign exchange would be tolerable. Speaking at a regular news conference, Hiraiwa said, "the yen's current level around 120 yen to the dollar will not cause negative effects to Japan's economy."

Any wild fluctuation will adversely affect the economy, he said, adding that he expects the yen to move around that level for some time. The yen rose 1.37 yen against the dollar on the Tokyo market Wednesday to the record high level of 119.25 yen.

Hiraiwa also said he believes speculation seen earlier in the world exchange market will fade about the dollar falling sharply if U.S. President Bill Clinton makes strong initiatives in financial reconstruction.

'No Factors' To Boost Yen Against Dollar

OW1802074993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0713 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—The yen may not rise further against the U.S. dollar in foreign exchange dealings, the vice trade minister said Thursday. "There are no factors to further boost the yen," Vice International Trade and Industry Minister Yuji Tanahashi said at a press conference.

Tanahashi said he expected the yen to move narrowly around the current level against the dollar. He attributed the yen's recent appreciation to temporary aversion to the dollar following U.S. President Bill Clinton's proposal to raise taxes.

The bearish sentiment toward the dollar may be erased soon because of Clinton's clear policy to revitalize the American economy, he said.

The dollar finished Thursday at 119.97 yen, up 0.72 yen from its record low closing rate of 119.25 yen on Wednesday, which compared with 124.30 yen at the outset of last week.

Mori Vows All-Out Efforts To Boost Imports

OW1902043293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0352 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Japan's trade minister pledged Friday to make all-out efforts to boost imports to rectify the trade gap with the United States, in response to a top U.S. official's criticism of the bilateral trade imbalance.

Yoshiro Mori, head of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), told reporters after a regular cabinet meeting that Japan has a responsibility to expand domestic demand to revive the sluggish economy and increase imports. Mori made the remarks on being asked to comment on U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor's call Thursday to Japan to "live up to commitments" to open its market to U.S. goods. Kantor described the U.S. trade deficit with Japan as "troubling."

Kantor's comments came after the U.S. Commerce Department reported Thursday a 29 percent rise in the U.S. trade deficit last year, with the gap with Japan widening 14 percent to 49.4 billion dollars.

MITI officials are worried about the swelling U.S. trade deficit with Japan, fearing Washington could step up pressure on Tokyo to take measures to boost imports of autos and semiconductors. "I frankly agree with the view that the expansion of Japan's domestic demand is needed to address the imbalance," one ministry official said on condition of anonymity.

The official praised President Bill Clinton's plans to enhance U.S. industrial competitiveness as a means of increasing exports, but noted that it would take time to see the effects of any increase in competitiveness. "In order to see results, it is necessary to boost Japan's domestic demand and increase imports," he said.

Hayashi Blames Speculation for Yen's Rise

OW1902013993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0124 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Recent yen-dollar exchange rate moves seem to be "a little speculative" and the Finance Ministry will closely watch developments while keeping in contact with other countries as usual, Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi said Friday. Asked how he views the recent pace of the yen's appreciation against the U.S. currency, Hayashi reiterated he "will closely watch developments."

The finance minister denied a rumor that the group of seven (G-7) leading industrialized nations may agree on a further rise of the yen. "As one of the authorities in charge of the yen, I can say the rumor is nothing but speculation," he said.

Hayashi's remarks came at a regular weekly news conference held after the morning cabinet meeting.

The dollar opened Friday's Tokyo session at 118.94 yen, sharply below the level in the first week of February when the unit changed hands in the 124 yen level.

Hayashi repeated that currency exchange rates should not be artificially engineered but rather naturally reflect economic fundamentals. He also brushed aside any likelihood of further pump-priming measures being announced after the Diet passes fiscal 1993 draft budget. "No income tax reduction, no tax cuts on housing investments," he stressed.

Hayashi indicated Thursday at the House of Representatives budget committee that the government may take additional steps if past measures prove insufficient. He said, however, his remarks were made merely from a general point of view. "As a government official, I can't say we will never do anything," he added.

Turning to U.S. trade figures released overnight, Hayashi suggested the United States will try to recapture its competitiveness. The U.S. trade deficit in 1992 jumped 29.0 percent from the previous year to a seasonally adjusted 84.3 billion dollars, while the deficit with Japan climbed 13.9 percent to an unadjusted 49.4 billion dollars.

Hayashi also said an ad hoc meeting of "learned persons" will be held Monday to decide about issuing a commemorative coin to celebrate the forthcoming wedding of crown Prince Naruhito and former diplomat Masako Owada. Among those participating in the meeting will be Tadao Ishikawa, head of Keio University, and Rokuro Ishikawa, chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Hayashi said.

Miyazawa Discusses Foreign Exchange Market

OW1902054793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0513 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Friday voiced concern about the recent gyrations of the foreign exchange market, which catapulted the yen to equal a record closing high against the U.S. dollar. "It will be troublesome if (the yen) moves up and down too wildly," he told reporters.

Powered by expectations of a credit easing in the United States, the yen has zoomed by about 5 yen in the last week, with the dollar closing at 119.25 yen on Wednesday to equal the all-time Tokyo closing low set last September 30. The dollar dropped to the 118 yen level on Friday morning for the first time since October 5. Miyazawa indicated that a further spurt of the yen may prompt central banks in major countries to stem the move through concerted interventions.

Asked about possible ways to smooth currency movements, he said, "I think the finance minister is considering such steps."

Beef Imports Said To Top 400,000 Tons in 1992

OW1802091793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0840 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Japan's beef imports topped 400,000 tons for the first time in 1992, nearly matching the size of domestic production, according to government statistics. The development came about two years after Japan, under strong pressure from the United States, abolished import quotas in April 1991.

According to customs-cleared trade statistics from the Finance Ministry and data from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, beef imports surged 16.2 percent to 413,345 tons last year, mainly because import tariffs were lowered to 60 percent from 70 percent in April 1992. The volume of imports was just below last year's domestic beef production, which rose 3.1 percent to 414,060 tons.

Beef traders said beef imports will surpass domestic production this year because the tariff rate goes down to 50 percent from the current 60 percent on April 1. By country, Australia was the largest beef exporter to Japan last year, shipping 215,455 tons. The U.S. came second with 184,890 tons.

Butrus-Ghali Calls Visit 'Very Constructive'

OW1902042993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0359 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—United Nations Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali left Japan on Friday for New York after ending a five-day official visit highlighted by a meeting with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa. During his stay in Tokyo, Butrus-Ghali repeatedly called on Japan to play a larger international role, particularly by boosting its commitment to U.N. peacekeeping activities worldwide.

Miyazawa, in his meeting with Butrus-Ghali on Tuesday, explained Tokyo's cautious stand over the U.N. chief's proposal for a rapid deployment force that would include heavily armed troops for peace enforcement in lieu of merely keeping peace.

Butrus-Ghali also exchanged views with Miyazawa over Japan's aspirations to join the U.N. Security Council as a permanent member.

Butrus-Ghali, an Egyptian who took up the top U.N. post in January 1992, told a news conference on Thursday that his Japan visit was "very constructive."

He noted the need for the U.N. secretary general to visit the country more frequently to beef up ties between the world body and Tokyo.

Spokesman Summarizes Butrus-Ghali Visit

OW1902101893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0926 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Japan has successfully conveyed to UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali it can make only limited contributions to UN military operations, top government spokesman Yohei Kono said Friday. "The secretary general repeatedly said he has tremendous expectations for Japan," Kono told a news conference at the close of Butrus-Ghali's five-day visit. "The prime minister replied that Japan will contribute to the best of its abilities where it can, and the secretary general understood that well," Kono said as Butrus-Ghali boarded a plane bound for New York.

The UN chief made it clear during his visit here that he would welcome Japan's stepped-up contribution to peacekeeping operations around the world, but he stopped short of requesting specific commitments.

The government has said it wants to weigh public support for the 600-member engineer corps serving as peacekeepers in Cambodia—the first overseas destination for ground troops since World War II—before promising to join UN operations in Mozambique or elsewhere.

Asked whether the visit helped bring Japan closer to securing a permanent seat on the UN Security Council, Kono replied, "I don't know."

"The visit was not directly related" to the reconfiguration of the Security Council, Kono said.

Butrus-Ghali told a news conference Thursday [18 February] there are "a lot of possibilities" for Japan to become a permanent member of the Security Council.

Listing off the gains reaped from the first visit here by a UN chief in over a decade, Kono said the Japanese people have become more aware of the variety of problems addressed by the multilateral organization in addition to high-profile peacekeeping operations. Peacekeeping operations account for only 20 percent of UN business.

A top Miyazawa aide, heaving a sigh of relief that the visit went well, sang praise for the personal relationship struck between Miyazawa and Butrus-Ghali, whom he described as an action-oriented, strong-man type leader. The aide, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that before Butrus-Ghali's arrival he had been nervous that Japan would not be able to meet UN expectations.

SDF Corps To Replace Personnel in Cambodia

OW1902031893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0305 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Defense Agency chief Toshio Nakayama ordered the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) on Friday to form a 600-member corps to replace peacekeepers in Cambodia, agency officials said. Following Nakayama's order, GSDF Chief of Staff Gen. Tetsuya Nishimoto directed the North District Army in Hokkaido to form the contingent, the officials said.

The contingent is likely to be dispatched to Cambodia between late March and early April, the officials said. The agency is consulting the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) on the timing, they said.

Since last September, a 600-member engineering corps has been engaged on road and bridge repair work in the war-torn country. It is to return to Japan in early April. The new contingent, scheduled to stay in Cambodia until the end of October when the Japanese peacekeeping mission's term expires, will assign more personnel to rescue squads and accounting work while cutting the number assigned to repair works, the officials said.

The corps will take over the main equipment for repair work used by the current team but plans to take an ambulance and refrigerator car for the use of Japanese personnel, they said.

Taiwanese Delegation Head Meets Yoshiro Mori

OW1802130593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1152 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—The head of a Taiwanese business delegation urged Japan on Thursday to increase imports from Taiwan to correct the trade imbalance between the two countries.

Koo Chen-fu, chairman of Taipei's Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce, made the call at a news conference, saying Taiwan's trade deficit with Japan in 1992 amounted to 13 billion dollars. He also asked Japan to promote technology transfers to Taiwan to strengthen its export industries.

Koo also emphasized the need for more bilateral governmental consultations, in addition to private-level exchanges, to correct the trade imbalance. Koo, who called on Japan's International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori earlier Thursday, said Mori told him Japan will promote more active exchanges with Taiwan.

About 100 members of the Taiwanese delegation are scheduled to tour Sendai, Osaka and Fukuoka until this weekend for talks with representatives of small Japanese industries.

Okinawa Seeks Return of Land Leased To U.S.

OW1902130193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1227 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Naha, Feb. 19 KYODO—Okinawa Prefecture asked the Japanese Government Friday for the return of some of the land it owns and that Japan leases to the United States military. The request, made at Defense Agency's Naha regional Defense Facilities Administration Bureau, is the first of its kind by the government of Japan's southernmost prefecture.

The prefecture is demanding the return of 810 hectares of land it owns and that now is part of U.S. military bases, including 580 hectares of mountains and forest in the Marine corps' northern training area. The prefecture also wants back parts of the Marines' Camp Schwab, Camp Courtney and an area known as Blue Beach. The land, comprising about 90 percent of the prefectural land the military is currently using, is now idle and can be used for more useful purposes, the prefecture said.

Okinawa, governed by leftwing governor Masahide Ohta, has expressed a desire to cancel its lease with the government so that the land can be freed from U.S. military use. About 20 percent of Okinawa's main island is used for U.S. military facilities under the Japanese-U.S. Security Treaty which requires the Defense Agency to provide the land for U.S. troops stationed in the country.

Okinawa, where a bloody ground battle was fought in the closing months of World War II, was returned to Japanese rule in 1972 after being administered by the U.S. after the war.

Okinawa Assembly Urges East China Sea Safety

OW1902050893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0455 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Naha, Feb. 19 KYODO—A full meeting of the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly on Friday unanimously approved a formal request to the central government to ensure the safety of shipping in the East China Sea. The move follows continued incidents of harrassment of shipping in the region, including the firing of warning shots at ships from Chinese patrol vessels.

The assembly's request to the government states that the incidents are a breach of international faith and damage the sovereignty of nations. It urges the government to take a strongly critical stand if it is known that China is involved in the incidents and to step up efforts to solve other incidents and strengthen patrols.

About 60 such incidents involving mainly cargo vessels have occurred in the East China Sea over the past year.

Among the more recent was an attack on December 30 on a Panamanian freighter by a boat flying a Chinese flag.

On January 14, a Chinese patrol vessel fired shots at a Japanese fishing boat.

China apologized over the January incident and said its patrol ship mistook the Japanese vessel for a boat of tobacco smugglers.

Hokkaido Prefecture To Expand Sakhalin Ties

OW1902090193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0824 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Sapporo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Hokkaido plans to set up an economic assistance liaison office with Sakhalin and initiate a number of projects to improve relations with regions in the Russian far east, prefectural officials said Friday.

The prefectural government, releasing its budget for fiscal 1993, has allocated 34 million yen for a feasibility study to set up a Hokkaido-Sakhalin economic exchange liaison office, which was first considered in the current fiscal year. If preparations are completed, an office would be set up in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk in fiscal 1993 with money from the auxiliary budget, the officials said.

To avoid embarrassing the official Tokyo position that no massive economic aid can be given to Russia until a long-standing territorial issue over the Russian-held islands off Hokkaido is settled, prefectural officials indicated that the guarantor of the office would likely be a local official.

Regarding the liaison office, the Foreign Ministry reasoned that even though Japan gave up its claim to sovereignty over the southern half of Sakhalin with the signing of the 1951 San Francisco Peace Treaty, but "that does not mean that we recognize giving it back to Russia," a ministry official said. "It would [be] undesirable if Hokkaido links the creation of this liaison office with Russia," the official said.

In addition to the liaison office, Hokkaido plans to continue with its ongoing program of promoting market economics in the Russian Far East and plan to hold a seminar with three Japanese specialists in Khabarovsk.

In response to a request by the Sakhalin Government, Hokkaido will send a Japanese language teacher for a two-year stint to Sakhalin and bring two students from the island to study Japanese in Sapporo.

Governor Takahiro Yokomichi is also scheduled to make a visa-free visit in July to Kunashiri, one of the four islands off Hokkaido claimed by Japan and held by Russia.

Hitachi Zosen Sets Up Scrapping Firm in SRV

OW1802105793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1027 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Hitachi Zosen Corp. said Thursday it has set up a ship scrapping company in Vietnam jointly with Vietnamese and Hong Kong concerns.

The new company, Da Hang Shipbreaking and Steel Co. (DSSCO), is capitalized at 4.4 million U.S. dollars, 50 percent owned by a Vietnamese concern, No. 387 factory, 25 percent by Hitachi Zosen and a Japanese shipping company, and by two Hong Kong-based companies, respectively, Hitachi officials said. The two Hong Kong companies are Kuo Oil, a petroleum sales firm, and Patt Manfield, a shipping company, they said.

The ship scrapping company, located at Ky-Ha Port, about 100 kilometers south of Da Nang, plans to start full operations in early 1994 with a scrapping capacity of four very large crude carriers, they said.

Bonds Export Agreement Signed With Ankara

TA1802161293 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1100 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] An agreement for Turkey to export state bonds of some 100 billion yen to the Japanese capital market has been signed in Tokyo. The agreement was signed by Tevfik Altinok, under secretary of the Treasury and Foreign Trade. The bonds, which amount to some $800 million, will be exported with an annual interest rate of 6.3 percent and with a grace period of seven years. According to the agreement, of the bonds worth 100 billion yen, 75 billion will be allocated to the use of the Treasury and 25 billion will be transferred in U.S. dollars to Turk Exim Bank to be used in activities aimed at encouraging exports.

The Treasury and Foreign Trade Under Secretariat has announced that the bonds Turkey has exported to the Japanese capital market have added up to $2.2 billion.

LDP Begins Budget Debate Despite Boycott

OW1802104493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1008 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) began Diet debate Thursday afternoon on the fiscal 1993 budget, rejecting the opposition's demand to summon more witnesses for testimony on a money-and-mobster scandal.

Shigeru Kasuya, chairman of the House of Representatives Budget Committee and an LDP lawmaker, declared the opening of the debate on the 72.4 trillion yen budget program with only LDP legislators present. The session lasted only one hour and a half.

Opposition party members of the committee boycotted the session, expressing their displeasure over the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal.

The No. 1 opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) convened an urgent meeting at which it decided to boycott deliberations in all the committees and a plenary session in the lower house. It is unusual for the ruling party to start budget debate without the participation of opposition members.

Debate in the lower house committee had been stalled due to the deadlock over summoning additional witnesses to testify on the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal.

The LDP was desperate to open the debate as it had earlier set a March 2 deadline for passing the budget through the lower house before sending it to the opposition-dominated House of Councillors. [passage omitted]

Diet Deliberations on Budget Reopen 19 Feb

OW1902055693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0524 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, 19 Feb KYODO—The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on Friday reopened Diet deliberations on the fiscal 1993 state budget despite an opposition boycott in protest at the LDP's refusal to summon more witnesses to testify about a money-and-mob scandal. In addition to the House of Representatives Budget Committee, the opposition parties have boycotted scheduled debates in the lower house plenary session and other committees.

The LDP, citing the severe economic slump, has urged the opposition camp to join the budget discussions so the fiscal 1993 budget can go through the Diet by early March at the latest, party officials said.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told reporters it is natural for the Diet to reopen the budget deliberations now that former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and Ichiro Ozawa, a former LDP secretary general, have given sworn testimony on the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal. Wednesday's testimony under oath by Takeshita and Ozawa did not reveal anything new since both men flatly deny any role in the scandal.

Tomiichi Murayama, chairman of the opposition SDP's Diet Affairs Committee told reporters, "we cannot consent to any cover-up by the LDP." But he said the SDP will join the budget deliberations if the LDP agrees to summon more witnesses to the Diet to give sworn testimony on the scandal.

Diet Standoff Widens Over Witnesses Issue

OW1902141093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1358 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Parliamentary confusion worsened Friday as the ruling party rejected postponement of a public hearing on the fiscal 1993 budget bill as sought by the opposition in order to summon more witnesses over a money-and-mob scandal. The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) continued the debate on the budget without the presence of opposition parties.

The Social Democratic Party (SDP) [of Japan] [SDPJ], Komeito, and the Democratic Social Party (DSP) proposed the postponement to put Diet business back on a normal track when their directors of the House of Representatives Budget Committee met the LDP's committee chairman.

Shigeru Kasuya told the opposition directors the public hearing will be held Monday and Tuesday [22, 23 February] as scheduled.

Diet law obliges a public hearing to be held before the budget bill is voted on by the committee, and lower house and House of Councillors plenary sessions. The public hearing will be attended by academics recommended by the parties. No such hearing has ever been held with the participation of only one party.

The LDP hopes to get the budget through the Diet by early March at the latest to get Japan out of its economic slump. The opposition parties extended their boycott of the budgetary deliberations in the lower house to a second straight day.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told reporters it is natural for the Diet to reopen the budget deliberations now former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and Ichiro Ozawa, former LDP secretary general, have given sworn testimony on the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal.

Wednesday's [17 February] testimony under oath by Takeshita and Ozawa did not reveal anything new since both men flatly denied any role in the scandal.

The SDPJ, Komeito, and the DSP want Rekiji Kobari, chairman of the Fukushima Kotsu bus company, to testify on his alleged role in the scandal. Another potential witness, Kiyoshi Sagawa, founder of the Sagawa Kyubin parcel delivery group, is in frail health and cannot appear before the Diet, his doctor said.

SDPJ Diet Affairs Committee Chairman Tomiichi Murayama told reporters the opposition "cannot consent to a cover-up of the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal."

In the House of Councillors, the SDPJ, Komeito, the DSP, and the Democratic Reform Party (DRP) came up with a fresh demand that a total of 14 witnesses be summoned to the upper house, opposition officials said. They presented the demand in a meeting with the LDP's Kaname Endo, chairman of the upper house budget committee.

The 14 include Takeshita once again, his former ally Shin Kanemaru, and Shigeaki Isaka, former auditor of a now-defunct bank that allegedly funneled cash to Takeshita through an art dealer in a 1985 shady art deal. The bank is alleged to have offered money to Takeshita, then finance minister, through the art dealer to ask him to wield his influence to block it from being absorbed by Sumitomo Bank.

Agency Says Local Economies Remain Sluggish

OW1802064993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0639 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Local economies around the nation remain sluggish, while conditions in the Tokyo and Osaka areas are even more feeble, the Economic Planning Agency said Thursday in its bimonthly report. The EPA said that according to the latest data local economies are continuing to lose energy, although housing investments are recovering somewhat and public works spending in 1992 was higher than the previous year.

Production is generally lackluster, while sales at major retailers and automakers are below last year's levels, the report said. It also said labor demand is decreasing and corporate insolvencies are rising in most areas.

With Okinawa partly supported by tourism, its conditions seem to be better than in other regions, but the economy is as weak as elsewhere, the report said. No future perspectives were given by the agency.

Mieno Says Money Supply To Pick Up Gradually

OW1902044393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0338 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno said Friday that broad money supply will start growing gradually as banks are becoming increasingly eager to lend.

Mieno, speaking before the Budget Committee of the House of Representatives, said the level of money supply is not unduly low.

"The lending stance of banks is becoming more eager," the central banker said.

He described the recent contraction of the money supply as "unusual in such an easy money period."

Cabinet Adopts Plan on Shorter Working Hours

OW1902024093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0229 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 19 KYODO—The Japanese cabinet on Friday approved a bill for amendment to the labor standard law requesting a cut in legal working hours to 40 from the current 44, government officials said.

The proposed amendment, which is in line with the government's declared target of reducing annual working hours to 1,800 by fiscal 1996, was to be submitted to the Diet for debate later in the day.

The proposal seeks a 40-hour working week from April 1994. For small- and medium-size companies, however, there should be a grace period until March 1997 allowing weekly working hours to be set at between 40 and 44.

The plan also regulates that payment rates for overtime and working on public holidays be raised by between 25 percent and 50 percent.

The officials said that relations between labor and management in small- and medium-size corporations are likely to be tense because of the overtime clause and probable delays in instituting a shorter work week.

The weekly working-hour regulation allows small to medium-sized companies to adopt longer working hours of up to 46 hours per week.

The term for the exemption expires at the end of March, but the government has decided to extend the term for one year after talks with the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Mongolia

Results of Ochirbat's Russian Visit Approved

LD2901204293 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1210 GMT 29 Jan 93

[By Dugar Sanzhiyev, ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 29 Jan—The People's Great Hural has approved the results of the official visit of Mongolian President Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat to Russia, which took place on 19-21 January of this year, the newspaper ARDYN ERH reports today.

The delegates heard a report by the head of state on the work done in Moscow and passed a resolution approving the results of his talks with Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

The Hural instructed the country's government to ensure that the Mongolian-Russian accords achieved in Moscow are implemented.

MPRP Endorses Statement Condemning Stalinism

LD1602164893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0620 GMT 16 Feb 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dugar Sanzhiyev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 16 Feb—The Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] supports the joint statement by the Russian and Mongolian presidents condemning the Stalinist repressions of the 1930's and 1940's. This is stated in a document circulated today by the MPRP Supreme Council. The joint statement by the heads of state was adopted during Punsalmagiyn Ochirbat's official visit to Moscow 19-21 January.

The MPRP rejects coercion. The document stresses that the party strives for the establishment of firm guarantees of political freedom for Mongolian citizens.

June Direct Elections for President Planned

HK1702061293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0602 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Beijing, Feb 17 (AFP)—Mongolia's first direct elections to choose a president will be held in June, officials said Wednesday.

The vote will take place in two rounds at the end of June and beginning of July. The new president will be elected for a four-year term, renewable, said a Mongolian Foreign Ministry spokesman. Previously the president had been elected by parliament.

The new electoral law was adopted by the Mongolian parliament, the Hural, which ended its autumn session Wednesday, said spokesman Tserendorjiin Jambaldorj contacted by telephone in Ulaanbaatar. There will be two candidates for office, said Jambaldorj—current President Punsalmaagyin Ochirbat, of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP), the former ruling communists, and a representative of the opposition coalition in parliament, the National Democrats and the Social Democrats.

Mongolia adopted a democratic Constitution a year ago and the MPRP won a landslide victory in legislative elections in July. In 1921 it became the first communist country in Asia to adopt Marxist-Leninism. It was also the first to reject the ideology when it put an end to almost 70 years of Soviet domination by adopting multiparty politics and a market economy in 1990.

Mongolia, wedged between Russia and China, is about half the size of India with 2.5 million inhabitants and is faced with a catastrophic economic situation.

Government Provides Private Agriculture Funds

LD0902141793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0435 GMT 9 Feb 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Dugar Sanzhiyev]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 9 Feb (ITAR-TASS)—As a part of its "food year" program, the Government of Mongolia has decided to allocate 100 million tugriks from the budget reserve to assist citizens who wish to set up their own subsidiary farms. A decision to this effect was adopted at a session of the Cabinet of Ministers last Friday, the newspaper ARDYN ERH reports today.

According to the newspaper, funds will be directed above all to obtaining from abroad fruit and vegetable seeds, broiler chickens, piglets, bees, and also equipment necessary for market gardening and looking after domestic poultry. All this will then be made available to the population on advantageous terms.

In the opinion of a local TV commentator, the government has acted very quickly to put into practice its planned measures for ensuring that the population receives food this year from local production.

North Korea

JNCC Head: IAEA Inspection 'Totally Unjust'

SK1902123893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1115 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Statement by Choe U-chin, DPRK chairman of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee, issued in Pyongyang on 19 February—read by announcer]

[Text] The South Korean authorities have frozen [tonggyol sikida] the work of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee [JNCC] by declaring they will hold the aggressive Team Spirit-93 nuclear war exercise with the United States. They are advancing toward the road of more grave treachery and crime.

As is known, after the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise was announced, some circles in the United States hastily spread a false rumor that we have objects we did not report to the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], and they linked them to our military objects. With the approach of its Board of Governors meeting in February, the IAEA is attempting to enforce a so-called special inspection [tukpyol sachal] on us all of a sudden.

At this very time, the South Korean authorities, as if they were waiting, held an emergency conference of so-called relevant government offices and agencies including Chongwadae [presidential office], the Foreign Ministry, and the Ministry of National Unification, and responded actively to the IAEA's moves. Moreover, the prime minister and defense minister, personally appearing in the National Assembly, said that they will send a special delegation to the IAEA Board of Governors meeting, and so forth, thus kicking off a row.

It is totally unjust of the IAEA to raise the issue of special inspection of us. This was prompted by the attempt of some circles in the agency to expand its inspection to military bases in our country which have nothing to do with nuclear activities. This was also prompted by false intelligence offered and pressure given by the United States in a bid to disarm us.

The IAEA has no right to use the information some country has provided for nonregular inspection [pijonggi sachal] or special inspection [tukpyol sachal]. This is an important principle of the work of this organization. Nevertheless, the United States, providing the IAEA with false information, is having this organization violate its own regulations and the safeguard agreement signed between us and the IAEA and is instigating it to conduct special inspections against us. A very insidious military and political design is lurking here.

The United States made an issue of our so-called nuclear issue, which is fictitious, prompted by the plan to obliterate our socialism. This is a well-known fact. In the process of the IAEA's nonregular inspection, the honesty of our nuclear policy was confirmed more clearly. Therefore, unable to find an excuse to obliterate us, the United States then invented the tactic of special inspection, revealing its insidious plot to escalate our nuclear issue. If the IAEA governors council unjustly decides to conduct special inspections of us, for which the United States schemes, it is very clear what grave consequences this will bring.

Furthermore, considering the fact that they are planning to conduct the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise, the provocative nuclear war rehearsal, all over South Korea, the so-called sanctions against us under the pretext of special inspections will undoubtedly become a hornets' nest giving rise to confrontation and conflict in our country.

It is not surprising that many people at home and abroad are now expressing deep worries about the grave consequences of the new commotions for special inspections which are conducted according to U.S. manipulations.

The reality being thus, the South Korean authorities are running wild at the head of the extremely dangerous special inspection commotions which will bring about an extremely dangerous consequence in our country. This is a foolish act, as if they were jumping into the fire with a bundle of straw on their back—a dangerous act attempting to impose tragedy on the entire nation again.

The South Korean authorities are acting like shock troops by following outside forces who are staging a row to force a so-called special inspection on us. I sternly denounce their reckless maneuvers by branding them an antinational crime.

All acts of the South Korean ruling circles illustrate that they are attempting to realize their insidious purposes in such a way as to enforce the nuclear issue, which should be resolved between fellow countrymen, on the other side in collaboration with outside forces, to dissolve [nallyo ponaego] the North-South JNCC, to completely block the inspection of the North and the South for verification of the denuclearization, and to unilaterally nullify the joint declaration on denuclearization of the Korean peninsula whose effectuation was declared to the entire world on this date two years ago.

We absolutely cannot idly look on this with our arms folded. Because the South Korean ruling circles, not discarding their chronic nation-selling flunkeyist nature, are sacrificing the nation's interests in collaboration with outside forces, they should be held totally responsible for all consequences resulting from this.

History and the nation will never pardon those who betrayed their fellow countrymen. We warn the South Korean authorities that they should act with discretion by correctly realizing how those who offered the nation and people as victims of big countries ended up.

[Dated] 19 February 1993, Pyongyang

Team Spirit 'Blocking' North-South Agreement

OW1802164593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1607 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in an article today notes that the "Team Spirit" joint military rehearsal is a provocative war gamble blocking North-South dialogue and reunification.

The author of the article says:

When a dialogue partner plays with fire, firing guns with outside forces to contain the counterpart with strength, it is meaningless to sit at the negotiating table. The North-South dialogue is intended to remove the distrust and confrontation between the sides and settle the problem of national reunification in a peaceful way.

It is a lesson given by the course of North-South dialogue that it cannot proceed smoothly when the confrontation and tension grow acute and the danger of war hovers about.

The "Team Spirit" war game has blocked the implementation of the historical North-South agreement, thus laying grave hurdles in the way of the peaceful reunification of the country.

The North and the South have vowed in the historical agreement to realize the country's reunification peacefully by the united efforts of the nation.

The "Team Spirit" war game staged by the South Korean rulers in league with the United States contradicts, the spirit of the North-South agreement stipulating non-aggression. It has caused grave consequences by checking the implementation of the agreement on the point of practice.

The reunification wanted by our fellow countrymen is a peaceful reunification, not a reunification by a showdown of strength.

The showdown of strength is a mode of national ruin that drives the country's situation to the brink of war and, furthermore, brings a nuclear holocaust on the head of the nation.

If the U.S. and the South Korean authorities persistently stage the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises under an unreasonable pretext, they will suffer a deserved punishment as war-thirsty elements, wreckers of dialogue and the heinous foes of peaceful reunification.

U.S. Said Developing New Laser Weapon

SK1902054793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 19 Feb 93

["MINJU CHOSON on U.S. Plan To Develop New Weapon"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—The United States plans to develop a new-type weapon designed to paralyze the functions of the telephone, the radar, the computer and other means of communications, guiding, and controlling devices. This is the topic of a MINJU CHOSON commentary today.

The analyst says:

The United States is claiming that the weapon would mainly destroy the equipment, not "doing harm directly to people." But this is a brazen sophism.

Based on electric magnetic oscillator, various kinds of combusting devices, chemicals, powerful laser operation, the weapon may cause horrible consequencies. The operation of weapons and equipment would be paralyzed and man's body also be destroyed and even his internal organs burnt by laser and chemicals.

The U.S. intention to develop and produce such a destruction weapon betrays its bellicose nature and duplicity. While crying for "peace" and "disarmament", the United States is, in actuality, trying to quicken the development of the new-type weapon. This indicates that the United States is still pursuing the policy of strength and seeking world supremacy.

Cambodian Delegation Continues DPRK Visit

Kim Il-song Receives Delegation

SK1902111293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1043 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the visiting delegation of the Funcinpec Party of Cambodia headed by Samdech Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the party and member of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia.

Present on the occasion were Politburo member of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, Vice-director of a department of the C.C. of the WPK Chi Chae-yong, Vice-Chairman of the External Economic Affairs Commission Chong Song-nam and Vice-minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Kyu-il.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He entertained the guests to a luncheon.

Group Presents Gift to Kim Il-song

SK1902111393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received a gift from Samdech Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the Funcinpec [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party and member of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, staying in Korea.

The gift was handed to Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the C.C. [Central Committee], Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, by the Samdech.

Presents Gift to Kim Chong-il

SK1902111593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from Samdech Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the Funcinpec Party and member of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, on a visit to Korea.

The gift was handed to Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, by Samdech Norodom Ranariddh.

British Party Leader Comments on Visit to DPRK

SK1902111993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—Eric Trevett, general secretary of the Central Committee of the New Communist Party of Great Britain, made public a statement in Pyongyang on Feb. 17.

Referring to his impressions of Korea, the general secretary said the Korean people who are guided by the great leader Comrade President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il are united and invincible.

The Korean people are filled with confidence in the socialist cause and the future even under the complicated situation in which capitalism is undergoing a serious crisis and the imperialists' policy of aggression has become all the more pronounced on the Korean peninsula and on a worldwide scale, he said, and added: Strengthening international support and solidarity for the just struggle of the Workers' Party of Korea to defend the socialist position from the ceaseless challenges of the imperialists is not only an important common task of us who value friendship with the Korean people and the idea of socialism but also a demand of the era.

The New Communist Party of Great Britain is struggling to frustrate the imperialists' policy of military threat, economic pressure, sanctions and blockade aimed at isolating the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and perpetuating the division of the Korean nation, he said, and continued:

Our party demands that the United States and the South Korean authorities discontinue the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, withdraw all the U.S. nuclear weapons, military bases and Armed Forces from South Korea and convert the Korean peninsula into a zone without nuclear weapons and aggression forces.

Our party fully supports the stand of the DPRK for totally terminating foreign interference in the internal affairs of the Korean people and reunifying the country by means of confederacy.

Our party urges the countries concerned which are directly responsible for the Korean issue to renounce the anachronistic Cold War policy and contribute to a positive solution of the Korean question on the principle of international justice.

The communists and progressive people of all countries will strengthen internationalist unity and solidarity on the basis of independence and the socialist idea in the spirit of the Pyongyang declaration.

UK Party Head Departs 18 Feb

SK1902064093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0604 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—General secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the New Communist Party of Great Britain Eric Trevett, a delegation of the Workers' Party of Turkey led by chairman Dogu Ferincek, a delegation of the People's Unity Party of Tunisia led by Deputy General Secretary Mohamed Bouchiha and a delegation of the Norwegian Communist Party [NCP] led by chairman of the C.C., NCP Ingve Iversen left here today. They were seen off at the airport by Secretary Hwang Chang-yop and Vice-director of a department Kim Hyong-u of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea.

Kim Chong-il Receives Birthday Note From 'Arafat

SK1902042293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] On the occasion of his birthday, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a congratulatory message from Yasir 'Arafat, president of the Palestine state and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The congratulatory message is as follows:

Pyongyang.

To Your Excellency the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee Political Bureau, secretary of the party Central Committee, and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army:

I send revolutionary greetings. On behalf of our Palestinian people, the members of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization who are my brothers, and myself, I send my most sincere and warmest congratulations and greetings to Your Excellency, and through you to your militant party, and your friendly government and people on the occasion of Your Excellency's 51st birthday.

Your party and the people of your country that are welcoming this happy festive day are expressing endless respect and infinite faith to Your Excellency who is devoting everything for the party and the republic's strength and development through energetic ideological and theoretical activities and wise leadership.

Your Excellency embodied the chuche idea which was founded by His Excellency Comrade Kim Il-song—the DPRK president—and built a DPRK-style socialism, thus turning the DPRK into a fortress of socialism. All the achievements accomplished by Your Excellency are bringing about admiration from the world's people and progressive forces fighting for freedom and independence including our Palestinian people, and are being highly assessed.

Through this opportunity I express great satisfaction over the relations of solid militant solidarity between our two countries and people of the two countries. I am of the firm belief that this relations will be continuously consolidated and developed in accordance with the common interest for progress and prosperity.

Your Excellency is giving support and encouragement to our people's liberation struggle and revolt to put an end to Israel's forced occupation, and to restore the legal and national rights including our country's right and right to self-determination and the establishment of a bloc for a Palestinian independent state with the sacred Quds as its capital, under the leadership of the single legitimate representative, the Palestinian Liberation Organization. Through this opportunity I express deep gratitude to Your Excellency.

I would like to once again express my most sincere and enthusiastic congratulations to Your Excellency the dear comrade leader. I hope that Your Excellency will live a long life and be happy. In addition I hope that results will be achieved in Your Excellency's sacred work to lead the friendly DPRK people to progress, prosperity, and reunification.

I express the my sincerest and lofty respect.

[Signed] Yasir 'Arafat, president of the Palestine state and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization

[Dated] 16 February 1993, Tunis

Foreign Crewmen Hold Birthday Celebration

SK1802120393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1100 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—A meeting of foreign crewmen celebrating the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was held at Chongjin port on February 15.

Present there were the crewmen of the Panamanian-flagged ship Iron Will and the Japanese-flagged ship Toyo No.7.

The captain and chief engineer of the Iron Will and the captain of Toyo No.7 made speeches there.

The speakers said that the birthday of dear His Excellency Marshal Kim Chong-il is a common auspicious holiday not only of the Korean people but also of the world progressive people.

Noting that today the Korean people under the wise leadership of His Excellency Kim Chong-il were achieving great success in socialist construction and in the struggle to reunify the divided country, they unanimously stressed that such achievements could be gained only by the people guided by the great leader and the illustrious leader.

Saying that dear His Excellency Kim Chong-il is the illustrious leader guiding the Korean people and the world progressive people along the road of independence with his outstanding idea and theory and energetic leadership, they expressed the belief that the Korean people under his leadership would achieve greater success in the revolution and construction.

The ode written by the great leader President Kim Il-song last year on the occasion of the 50th birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was recited at the meeting.

A congratulatory letter to Comrade Kim Chong-il was adopted there.

Chongnyon Holds Central Meeting in Tokyo 15 Feb

SK1802120493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1106 GMT 18 Feb 93

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Pyongyang February 18 (KCNA)—A central meeting of Koreans in Japan celebrating the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was held at the Korean House of Culture in Tokyo on February 15, according to a KNS report.

Present there were Chairman Han Tok-su and vice-chairmen of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), the general director of its Secretariat and its department directors, leading officials of the organisations and enterprises and other Chongnyon officials and Koreans in Japan.

Vice-chairman of Chongnyon So Man-sol delivered a report at the meeting.

He said:

"Holding in high esteem the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who is a genius of idea, theory and leadership and shapes benevolent policies, our republic has become an invincible country where the leader, the party and the masses are united in one mind and the hope in the age of independence that demonstrates the superiority of Korean-style socialism centred on the popular masses to the whole world.

"There is no such a statesman and a genuine leader of people in the world as our dear leader who absolutely believes in people and rouses them to a heroic victory with unshakable faith and strong will.

He clearly indicated in good time the road ahead of Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan and took utmost care of them so that we have been able to consolidate the driving force of the Koreans' movement in Japan as firm as a rock and exalt the pride and honor of being the forerunners of the world overseas compatriots' movement."

A congratulatory message to Comrade Kim Chong-il on the February holiday was read out at the meeting.

The Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon arranged a banquet on February 15 on his birthday.

Chongnyon officials and Korean traders and industrialists in Japan were present and prominent Japanese figures of various social strata and envoys of more than 35 countries including Cuba and Russia were invited there.

8th LSWYK Congress Continues in Pyongyang

Attendees, Agenda Detailed

SK1902010793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1517 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—The 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea (LSWYK) opened here today with splendor.

It is a significant congress which proves the validity and vitality of the line and policy of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] that has successfully solved the youth problem for the first time in history by applying the great chuche idea, and a congress of loyalty and singlehearted unity which demonstrates worldwide the unshakable faith and will of the young people of Korea to staunchly defend and accomplish the party's cause, the cause of socialism, united rock-firmn around the party and the leader.

It was attended by delegates elected at provincial, city and county conferences of the LSWYK.

A South Korean youth delegate and a congratulatory group of the League of Korean Youth in Japan are also present.

Members and alternate members of the C.C. [Central Committee], the WPK and chief secretaries of city and county party committees were invited, and party officials and officials in charge tn the education of youth and children were present as observers.

A large badge of the league bearing a portrait of the great leader President Kim Il-song was placed on the platform of the meeting hall, the February 8 house of culture, flanked on either side by the red flag and the flag of the league.

Slogans reading "Long Live the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song!" and "Long Live the Glorious Workers' Party of Korea!" were hanging in the hall.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and supreme commander of the Korean people's army, appeared on the platform while the band struck up the welcome music.

That moment, a storm of cheers "Hurrah!" and "Kim Il-song", "Kim Chong-il" burst forth.

Delegates to the congress presented a floral basket to President Kim Il-song, carrying their deep respect and reverence.

Letters of loyal pledge of the young vanguard were presented to him by delegates of students, working youth, the youth of the Korean People's Army and the Korean People's Security Forces. Then the South Korean youth delegate presented a silk banner to him and head of the congratulatory group of the League of Korean Youth in Japan Pak Ku-ho, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the league, presented him with a letter of loyal pledge and a silk banner on the occasion of the 8th Congress of the LSWYK.

The congress invited the great leader of our party and our people President Kim Il-song who foinded and has guided the LSWYK, and the dear leader of our party and people Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, to the platform of the congress.

Invited to the platform were also O Chin-u, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the WPK, and members and alternate members of the Political Bureau and secretaries of the C.C., the WPK.

The South Korean youth delegate and the head of the congratulatory group of the league of Korean youth in Japan were also invited to the platform.

Stepping on the platform were also the chairman and vice-chairmen of the C.C., the LSWYK, the chairmen of the provincial committees of the LSWYK and the chairmen of the LSWYK committees of the Korean People's Army, the Korean People's Security Forces and the Ministry of Public Security.

It was announced that congratulatory telegrams and letters had come to the congress from Youth League

Organizations and youth and children across the country and foreign youth organizations and international organizations.

Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the C.C., the WPK, conveyed a congratulatory message of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea to the congress.

A congratulatory group of the Korean Children's Union entered the meeting hall while the chorus of "long live generalissimo Kim Il- song!" rang through the hall.

The group presented fragrant flowers to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il. A congratulatory message of the group to the congress was recited.

The congress endorsed the following agenda:

1. On the task of the LSWYK to firmly prepare the young people to be a young vanguard unfailingly loyal to the party and the leader
2. On the summing up of the work of the central auditing commission of the LSWYK
3. On the revision of the rules of the LSWYK
4. On the election of the central guiding bodies of the LSWYK

The congress began discussion of the first item.

Choe Ryong Hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the LSWYK, made a report on the first item.

The congress continues.

Chairman on Youth's 'Moral Traits'

SK1802124093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1111 GMT 18 Feb 93

["Reporter at LSWYK Congress on Ideological and Moral Traits of Korean Young People"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK], in his report at the 8th Congress of the LSWYK which opened here today said that the kernel of our young people's ideological and moral traits is their intense loyalty and filial duty to the party and the leader.

All our young people have established an undisputed revolutionary attitude toward the leader, and they are now filled with the unshakable determination to uphold their leader and party with loyalty and staunchly defend the party and the leader under whatever circumstances and unwaveringly walk the long road of revolution under the guidance of the party, he noted, and said:

As our LSWYK members and other young people, the third and fourth generations of the revolution, have the revolutionary will to make the revolution through generations, they have entrusted their destinies entirely to our party and held ever higher the banner of socialism, united rock-firm around the party in recent years when the anti-socialist frenzy has got unprecedentedly unruly in the international arena and young people were embroiled into counterrevolutionary rowdyism against their parties and governments in some countries which had been building socialism.

Bearing deep in mind the value of the great leader and the illustrious leader based on the undisputed revolutionary attitude toward the leader our young people regard it as a strict rule on all work and activities to think and act only in accordance with the idea and will of the party any time and anywhere and to defend the party and the leader politically and ideologically and with their own lives, he stressed.

Chairman Discusses Youth's Loyalty

SK1802124193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1116 GMT 18 Feb 93

["8th Congress of LSWYK; Young People Should Remain Faithful to Party's Leaders"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang February 18 KCNA)—Cho Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committe of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK], in his report at the 8th Congress of the LSWYK which opened here today said that in order to firmly defend the socialist cause of chuche and carry it to accomplishment, the youth should remain faithful of the leadersip of the party.

Korean socialism, an embodiment of the chuche idea, is now being carried forward and developed victoriously under the guidance of the dear leadr Comrade Kim Chong-il who is upholding the revolutionary cause of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song with fidelity, the reporter note, and stressed:

Singlehearted unity of the Korean people and youths behind the party is the key to repulsing all machinations of the imperialists and reactionaies against socialism and our republic, firmly defending socialism of our own style and rebuilding, strengthening and developing the world socialist movement.

Let us uphold our party with singlehearted unity—this must be the unshakable will of our young people and the entirety of their struggle and life. The greatest happiness for people and youth is to be guided by a great leader and a great party and the biggest misfortune is to have no outstanding leader and not to be led by a revolutionary party.

Our young people should faithfully uphold the party's leadership, defend the socialist cause centred on the popular masses and successfully carry it to acomplishment, closely rallied behind the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, as the first generation of our revolution fought and won, holding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in high esteem as the centre of unity, as the centre of leadershp.

Calls for Ideological Education

SK1802124593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1122 GMT 18 Feb 93

["Intensified Ideological Education of Youth Called For at 8th Congress of LSWYK"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—In order to fully prepare the youth as vanguard fighters staunchly defending the party and its cause of sociaism in the van under the banner of singlehearted unity, it is necessary to strengthen ideological education among them, stressed the report to the 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK], which opened here today. In the report Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the LSWYK Central Committee, said that in ideolgical education of the young people main stress should be put on education in the spirit of loyalty to the party and the leader and this is the main quality which the heirs to the revolution should have and the ideological and moral source of singlehearted unity.

He pointed out that the movement for learning from the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il should be invigorated to rear all the young men and women as reliable heirs to the the revolutionary cause of chuche and a true vanguard of revolution.

Calling for educating the youth to have a firm faith in the victory of revolution and a strong will, the reporter said all the youth must become a lifeguard and death-defying corps resolutely defending the party and its cause of socialism at its head, with the unshakable creed that they would rather die than live as slaves or abandon socialism which has been brought into blossom by our party.

They should intensify education in the cuche idea among the youth so that they may become chuche-type young revolutionaries who know only the revolutionary idea of our party, the chuche idea and lives and acts according to it. He urged that the LSWYK oganizations shoud keep heigtened vigilance against the counterrevolutionary moves of the imperialists and the reactionaries, strengthen ideological education among the youth to prevent the infiltration of the corrupt bourgeois ideology and culture and way of life and eliminate their slightest manifestation in time through an uncompromising struggle.

Calls for Youth To Defend Country

SK1802131593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1127 GMT 18 Feb 93

["Preparedness Called for To Confront Enemy's Aggression at 8th Congress of LSWYK"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 8 (KCNA)—If the enemy starts a reckless war of aggression, the five million members of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] will turn out as heroic soldiers devoted their youth to the country during the Fatherland Liberation War to become five million rifles and bombs and the same number of Yi Su-pok, defeat the aggressors and defend the party, the leader and the socialist homeland, defying death, stessed Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the LSWYK Central Committee. [sentence as received]

In his report at the the congress of the LSWYK which opened here today, he said the young people are the main force in defending the country and to defend the party and the socialist homeland with arms is their noble duty. The LSWYK organizations should make sure that all the young people keep themselves always in a strained and mobilized posture to confront the enemy's aggression, with a correct view of imperialism and war, he noted.

He said the working youth and students should actively take part in the training of the worker-peasant Red Guards and the young Red Guards, holding a rifle in a hand and a hammer or sickle or a writing-brush in the other hand, and sincerely acquire military knowledge.

He called on all the young soldiers to further intensify the combat and political training, holding high the slogans "Let us fight devotedly for the great leader and the dear leader!," "Let all of us become Kim Chin and Yi Su-pok in the '90's!," and "Let us live and struggle like hero Kim Kwang-chol!" and definitely guarantee the unity between the officers and the soldiers, the unity between the Army and the people and the unity between the party members and the members of the LSWYK and thoroughly establish the revolutionary military moral, thus creditably discharging their honorable mission as the army of the leader and the party and soldiers of General Kim Chong-il, the respected supreme commander.

Stresses Unity of Youth

SK1802131693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1132 GMT 18 Feb 93

["Unity of World Youth and Defence of Socialist Cause Urged at LSWYK Congress"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—Let the world youth advocating independence unite!—this is the common slogan all the young people of our times should uphold.

Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK], stressed this in his report at the 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea which opened here today.

Young people, he said, should strengthen militant friendship and unity under this slogan and fight vigorously to build a free and peaceful new world free from domination and subjugation, imperialism and war.

The young people of our times should not harbour any illusion about imperialism but maintain the resolute anti-imperialist stand and valiantly turn out in the anti-imperialist struggle to save the destiny of mankind and defend their precious youth from the imperialist clutches.

One of the urgent tasks facing the world progressive people and youth in completing the cause of indepedence of mankind is to defend the socialist cause from the anti-socialist moves of the imperialists and promote it, said Choe Yong-hae.

Now the socialist cause is undergoing temporary ordeals, but socialism remains the desire of mankind, he said, and added: This is clearly proven by the fact that over 160 communist, workers' and progressive parties have signed the declaration on defending and advancing the socialist cause which was adopted in Pyongyang in April last year.

He appealed to the world progressive youth to make perserving efforts to defend and advance socialism by applying the noble idea of the Pyongyang declaration.

South Korea

ROK, DPRK Said To Ask Jimmy Carter To Mediate

SK1902053093 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 19 Feb 93 p 1

[Text] Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter said on 18 February that he had been asked to mediate negotiations between North and South Korea and would ask U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to allow him to start the mediation.

Former President Carter told foreign correspondents that day that North and South Korean government officials had asked him to help in the North-South negotiations a few years ago, paying particular attention to the nuclear issue.

He also said that the North and South Korean governments this week again invited him to mediate and that he wants to start the mediation early this year if the Clinton administration approves.

He also said: "North and South Korea asked him to help in the deadlocked North-South negotiations around a year ago. They also asked him to handle the issue concerning nuclear inspections and other issues." He also said: "I was ready to accept the request. The State Department, however, asked me not to."

In the meantime, former President Carter met with North and South Korean diplomats at a seminar on international affairs held in January of last year at the Presidential Center in Atlanta.

After Carter's news conference, (Dale Powell), a Carter aide, said that the U.S. State Department made that decision in 1992 because election campaigns were under way in the United States and the ROK.

Former President Carter also said: "Representatives from North and South Korea again visited him this week and asked him to intervene. If Secretary Christopher considers this to be advisable, he will willingly start the mediation. The time may be sometime during the first half of this year."

He also said that the Korea Foundation, on behalf of the ROK Government, and the Institute for Peace and Disarmament, on behalf of the North Korean Government, had sent the letters of invitation to him.

In connection with this, an official of the Korea Foundation, said: "(Professor Dale Spencer), who is working with former President Carter, visited the ROK last July and asked the ROK to send a letter of invitation to him because he wants to visit both North and South Korea." He also said: "No further discussion has been made on this issue and the foundation has not sent a letter of invitation to him."

A pertinent official at the ROK Foreign Ministry said: "Upon learning that former President Carter wants to visit North and South Korea, the ROK expressed the opinion that if a former U.S. President visits North Korea under the present circumstances, this will lead North Korea to have a misjudgement [opan]."

Ministry Denies Asking for Help

SK1902062393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0615 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—The Foreign Ministry issued a denial Friday of a wire service report in afternoon papers that says it asked former U.S. President Jimmy Carter to mediate in inter-Korean affairs.

The government did recently tell Carter it would welcome him if he wanted to visit South Korea, but he was never asked to intervene, a ministry official said.

"There is no change in our principle that inter-Korean matters have to be solved between the two directly involved parties, and therefore Mr. Carter has no part to intervene," the official said.

A foreign wire report from Atlanta quoted the former president as saying that South and North Korean officials asked him about a year ago to mediate in their dialogue, especially on nuclear issues, but he was discouraged by the U.S. State Department.

He was asked again recently, he was quoted as saying, and wanted to start the mediation early this year if Bill Clinton's administration gave him the go-ahead.

"It's entirely up to him," the ministry official said of the prospect of Carter visiting North Korea.

"But such a visit can cause misinterpretation on North Korea's part now, when inter-Korean dialogue is on hold and Pyongyang's nuclear suspicion is becoming an international issue," he said.

The Korea Foundation, an organization affiliated with the Foreign Ministry that Carter claims made the invitation on behalf of the South Korean Government, also released a statement of denial.

"We know that Mr. Carter wanted to visit both South and North Korea from some time ago, but we have never received any formal proposals from him about his Seoul trip and we never extended an official invitation," the statement said.

PRC 'Expects' IAEA To Negotiate With Both Koreas

SK1902013893 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 19 Feb 93 p 2

[Article by Beijing-based correspondent Pak Sung-chun]

[Text] In connection with the special nuclear inspection of North Korea by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], China revealed its stance that it is against the existence of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula. At a news briefing held on 18 February, in response to the CHOSON ILBO reporter's question "Under the circumstances in which the IAEA's special nuclear inspection of North Korea comes out as an international issue, what is the Chinese side's stance about North Korea maintaining the attitude of refusing to accept the special inspection", Li Jianying, spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Affairs Ministry, answered that "China does not favor the existence of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, no matter whom they may belong to—North Korea, South Korea, or a foreign country."

After saying "China supports the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula," Spokesman Yi Jianying added: "The denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, stipulated in the North-South joint statement, will be realized as soon as possible."

Spokesman Li revealed that he "expects that the issue of the IAEA nuclear inspection of North Korea will be resolved by the IAEA through negotiations with North and South Korea."

IAEA Discounts DPRK Claim of 'Inconsistency'

SK1902011693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0052 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Berlin, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has put North Korea's nuclear program at the top of the agenda for the board of governors meeting and left the closing date open, IAEA officials said Thursday.

The decision comes just before North Korean Nuclear Industry Minister Choe Hak-kun arrives in Vienna Saturday with Pyongyang's response to the agency's demand for a special inspection.

Choe and a team of nuclear experts reportedly left Pyongyang on Thursday and are heading to IAEA headquarters in Vienna to meet with Director-General Hans Blix and explain what the agency called "inconsistency in samples and measurements."

The IAEA spokesman said the agency expects North Korea's answer during the weekend talks between Choe and Blix and that discussion of details will be complete just before the board convenes on Feb. 22.

Blix asked for a special inspection after Pyongyang refused access to two highly suspected sites, believed to store nuclear waste from plutonium extraction, to IAEA ad hoc inspection teams.

Pyongyang insists the sites are military installations and have nothing to do with nuclear activities.

The agency spokesman said the board meeting may continue well beyond the usual two days, depending on the progress of the North Korean agenda.

IAEA sources predicted that the board may repeat demands for the special inspection and call for immediate IAEA sanctions and referral to the U.N. Security Council.

There is only one way to calculate nuclear waste, they said, brushing aside claims that the inconsistency in North Korea's report and IAEA's analysis are due to different measuring methods.

Vice Minister: DPRK Nuclear Threat 'Exaggerated'

SK1902025493 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 19 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] A high-ranking government official has said: Suspicions of North Korea's nuclear development, which have entirely frozen North-South relations, have been exaggerated at home. Therefore, the ROK Government must reshape its nuclear policy toward the North Korea upon the completion of the Team Spirit exercise.

This comment is noteworthy.

A seminar took place at the North-South Dialogue Secretariat on 18 February on the first anniversary of the effectuation of the North-South basic agreement. Pertinent government officials, scholars, and journalists attended this seminar. Yim Tong-won, vice minister of the National Unification Board, at this seminar said: As a result of the inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], suspicions of North Korea's nuclear development have been significantly eliminated. And the United States has also affirmatively assessed this.

Vice Minister Yim also said: Suspicions of North Korea's nuclear development still remain. The IAEA inspections have, however, proven that what had been believed to be a 20- to 30-megawatt reactor in Yongbyon that has pure military purposes has been found to be a five-megawatt primitive reactor for electric power equipped with generators.

He also said: The construction of what the United States had believed to be a reprocessing facility has halted and 80 percent of the building and 40 percent of the interior have been completed. This facility has been placed under the IAEA's control. Therefore, it has become impossible for North Korea to secretly extract plutonium at this facility.

DPRK Engineers To Attend IAEA Negotiations

SK1902120993 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1100 GMT 19 Feb 93

[By reporter Cha Man-sun in Vienna]

[Text] Some of North Korea's nuclear expert engineers will attend negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] on special inspection, which will be held soon. An IAEA source said Director General Hans Blix, who has to report the outcome of North Korea's implementation of the nuclear agreement at the Board of Governors meeting, will have to finalize the issue of North Korea's special inspection today or tomorrow because the regular Board of Governors meeting will be held on 22 February.

The source added that North Korea's Atomic Energy Industry Minister Choe Hak-kun will visit the IAEA. It appears that he will participate in negotiations, taking some North Korean nuclear expert specialists with him. However, he did not take North Korean nuclear expert specialists when he visited the IAEA for the first time on 1 December 1992.

Premier: Koreas Should Solve Problems Themselves

SK1902031593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0247 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—South and North Korea should show the world that they can solve their own problems by keeping their promises to each other, South Korean Prime Minister Hyon Sung-chong said Friday.

"The closure of dialogue between the two Koreas is a betrayal of the trust of not only the Korean people but the entire international community that keeps a watchful eye on the Korean issue," Hyon said in a statement to mark the first anniversary of the basic inter-Korean agreement and the joint nonnuclearization declaration.

Suspicions over North Korea's nuclear development program were mounting and affecting the destiny of the Korean people, he said, urging extraordinary concern about the matter.

"Tensions stemming from the nuclear issue are creating a crisis in which South-North relations may depart from the basic principle that national issues should be solved in an independent and peaceful manner," he said.

Meanwhile, the Central Committee for National Unification of Korea urged Pyongyang to sit down at the negotiating table to solve the issue and to realize reunions of separated families.

Countries Oppose Sale of DPRK Items by ROK

SK1802025693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0204 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—Advanced countries are trying to block the sale by South Korean companies of products made in North Korea, the Trade and Industry Ministry said Thursday.

Large South Korean companies, including those affiliated with the Samsung, Hyosung, Kolon and Ssangyong business groups, plan to join forces with North Korea to make bags, garments and footwear for sale in foreign countries by combining southern capital and northern labor.

The German and Canadian Embassies, warning that exports of jointly made goods to quota areas would violate the voluntary restraint agreement, recently contacted the ministry to confirm the plans.

The Canadian Embassy took issue with the probable roundabout exports by South and North Korea last month.

Though part of the manufacturing, such as sewing, is done in North Korea, products can't be shipped to the European Community, Canada or the United States under the voluntary restraint agreement with marks of North Korean origin, they said.

The embassies warned that if South Korea breaches the agreement, it should expect a sharp reduction in its export quota, the ministry said.

Exporting goods made in South and North Korea to the United States violates U.S. law because the United States bans all imports from North Korea, a ministry official said.

Plans by South Korean companies to make goods in cooperation with North Korea were aimed for domestic consumption, they said, adding that jointly made products would be sold only to developing countries due to their low quality.

Noting that roundabout exports are causing problems globally, they called on southern firms to be cautious in pushing export projects through North Korea.

They worried that the items South Korean firms are trying to manufacture using cheap North Korean labor are mostly those which come under the voluntary restraint agreement.

They pointed out that if the jointly produced goods are sold to other countries other than in the quota area, the Korean exporters are likely to pay high tariffs in most cases because few nations give North Korea most-favored nation status, saying that it would not help price competitiveness much.

South Korean enterprises seeking to manufacture light industrial products in North Korea for export to escape the high wages of South Korea need to modify their strategies, they said.

Inter-Korean economic cooperation projects came to a temporary halt early this year because of the North Korean nuclear issue and the Seoul-Washington "Team Spirit" military exercise.

Dailies Comment on Clinton's Address to Congress

SK1902050993

[Editorial Report] Two South Korean daily vernacular newspapers on 19 February carry editorials commenting on President Clinton's address to Congress on 18 February.

The pro-government SEOUL SINMUN on page 3 carries a 1,000-word editorial entitled "Clinton's Reform Is 'Sharing the Burden of Spending Cuts and Pain'." After noting the contents of President Clinton's plan to revitalize the U.S. economy, the editorial says "We hope that Clinton's plan will revitalize the U.S. economy and play the role of a locomotive in revitalizing the world economy. To this end, what is most important is that, as Clinton stressed, Americans positively support his plan. We think that the key to the success or failure of Clinton's plan lies in whether American citizens positively participate in the sharing of national pain." Referring to international expectations of the "brave U.S. President and Government", the editorial adds that "Clinton's challenge can be estimated to be a very new, vigorous, and brave attempt."

The editorial concludes by saying that "Because a new ROK Government will come in a week, Clinton's challenge will be a lesson that suggests much to our own reform."

The pro-government KYONGHYANG SINMUN on page 3 carries a 900-word editorial entitled "The United States Should Maintain A 'Mutual Coexistence' Framework." The editorial says that "U.S. President Clinton's first address to Congress suggests that the road of his future policy will never be smooth. In particular, it is expected that his economic policy will bring about much tribulation, challenge, and opposition."

After noting Clinton's promises during his election campaign, Republicans Party criticisms, and some of the American people's disappointment with his plan, the editorial added "How can President Clinton harmoniously resolve the contradictory issues of cutting deficits by half and of revitalizing the economy? This cannot but be a major matter of concern."

Referring to the direction of U.S. external trade, the editorial adds "What concerns us is that the Clinton Administration, engaged in its national interests, may adhere to the policy of ignoring other countries' interests. Thinking of recent U.S. external trade diplomacy and trade circumstances, we cannot but be very concerned about this."

After noting Clinton's election promises about the direction of U.S. diplomatic policy to revitalize the economy, the editorial says "If the new U.S. Government calls for fair trade, we can fully understand this. If the new U.S. Government seeks unilateral U.S. interests and protective trade, this is clearly contrary to the world trade order. Such a policy may easily bring about a terrible trade war and will never be beneficial to the U.S. economy."

The editorial concludes by saying "Since the cold war system collapsed and because the United States has given up its role of world policeman, its external policy should contribute to maintaining the mutual coexistence framework. In this regard, the United States should not adhere to the theory of seeking its short-term interests and economic power. The United States should, above all, respect the principle of mutual and reciprocal benefit."

YONHAP: USFK To Lay Off 1,005 Korean Employees

SK1902032793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0218 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—The United States Forces Korea (USFK) will lay off 1,005 Korean employees this year due to defense spending cuts.

USFK has informed 14 chapters of the Union of Korean Employees of the cuts and how they affect their members, according to a USFK spokesman.

The lay-offs will begin at the end of this month and continue to the end of July.

A senior union official, speaking on condition of anonymity, called it absurd for USFK to cut more than 1,000 employees even though he understood the inevitability of the action because of defense budget reductions.

"We are considering every means possible, including walkouts or strikes, to reduce the reduction as much as possible," he said. The union has some 18,000 members nationwide.

The USFK spokesman said the lay-offs were inevitable unless the Korean Government shared the burden of a 25-percent cut in defense spending and increases in labor costs. Last year, USFK chopped 360 employees after withdrawing a plan to do away with 1,500 jobs.

Committee Agrees To Computerize U.S. Military Records

SK1902103893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0729 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—A South Korea-U.S. committee decided Friday on a new computerization project to keep entry-exit records on American military personnel. It also decided on 11 new contractors for repairs and relocation of American base facilities.

The Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) Committee agreed to connect entry-exit records of U.S. servicemen to the computerized network of South Korea's immigration office, committee officials said. Chong Tae-ik, director-general of the American Affairs Bureau, attended for the Seoul side. Lt. Gen. Howell M. Estes was his U.S. counterpart.

U.S. Embassy Advocates Semiconductor Resolution

SK1802132893 Seoul YONHAP in English 1232 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—The American Embassy in Korea has recently advised the U.S. Department of Commerce to accept an agreement on suspension of investigation into alleged dumping of Korean-made semiconductors as proposed by the South Korean Government and semiconductor industries, it was learned Thursday.

The embassy advice follows similar recommendations to the U.S. Administration by the American Chamber of Commerce in Korea (AMCHAM) and U.S. computer industries.

Sources at the semiconductor industry and the U.S. Embassy here said that the U.S. computer industry led by IBM, Compaq Computer Corp. and Hewlett-Packard Co. had sent a message to the U.S. Commerce Department asking for a fair judgement in the final review of an dumping charge against Korean-made D-RAM memory chips, which is set to be made on March 15.

They said that the American Embassy in Seoul, too, sent a report to the home government saying that a smooth resolution of the semiconductor issue would be in both countries' interests.

An American Embassy source said Ambassador Donald Gregg had expressed the view publicly and privately that a semiconductor agreement should be resolved satisfactorily.

The basic position of the American Embassy is that making Japanese and Korean industries compete with each other at the American market would conform to U.S. interests, he said.

The source added that in connection with the semiconductor issue, the American Embassy is striving positively to help resolve the issue in a direction in which the Korean and U.S. Governments and industries could cooperate.

Even before the breakup of the semiconductor talks, IBM and other leading computer firms belonging to the U.S. Computer Policy Council mailed letters to U.S. senators hailing from their respective areas and the Commerce Department demanding the adoption of the agreement on the suspension of dumping investigation.

Domestic industry sources said American industries have lately flashed messages to the U.S. Commerce Department in succession, in which they asked for a fair final judgement on the issue.

Korean industries, in their part, would ask the American Embassy and the American Chamber of Commerce next week hrough the Trade and Industry Ministry for their added cooperation in this regard, the sources said.

U.S. Video Groups Urge PFC Listing for ROK

SK1802022293 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 18 Feb 93 p 9

[Text] American video game manufacturers are joining forces to urge the Clinton administration to place Korea on the list of priority foreign countries [PFC] subject to trade retaliation.

According to the Economic Planning Board [EPB] yesterday, some 70 American video game manufacturers including Nintendo America Co. recently filed a petition with the U.S. Trade Representative [USTR] Office calling for Korea and nine other countries to be designated as PFCs, taking issue with the alleged poor protection of their intellectual property rights [IPR] under the Section 301 provisions of the U.S. Omnibus Trade Act.

The American manufacturers were quoted in the petition as claiming that illegal copies of their video games are grabbing the largest portion of the Korean market and that some Korean companies have been exporting the illegal video game copies to the U.S. and Canada.

The petition called upon the USTR to launch investigations into Korea's poor protection of American IPR.

Besides Korea, Taiwan, China, Venezuela, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador, Paraguay and Singapore were also cited as countries infringing on American intellectual property rights in the petition, the EPB said.

The petition followed a recommendation made by the International Intellectual Property Alliance [IIPA] recently, which also asked the Clinton administration to cite seven nations including Korea as PFCs.

The IIPA, an American group of IPR-related organizations, said pirated compact discs (CDs) and illegally copied films are flooding the Korean market. It also said Korea's protection of computer software copyrights is insufficient.

The IIPA, along with Korea, named Taiwan, Thailand, Poland, Italy, Turkey, India and the Philippines as those who should face trade retaliation under Section 301. It especially called for prompt action against Taiwan and Thailand.

IIPA's recommendations allegedly play a decisive role in determining the U.S. administration's assessment of IPR protection.

The U.S. is due to announce the list of priority foreign countries in late April. If Korea is put on the list, it will be obligated to hold negotiations with the U.S. within six months, and if the negotiations break down, it will face trade retaliation by the U.S.

ROK To Withdraw Boats Near Canadian Coast

SK1302040593 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 12 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] A Foreign Ministry official said on 12 February that the government decided to withdraw all Korean fishing boats operating in Newfoundland waters by April.

This official said: "Canada joined the North Atlantic Fishery Organization, which decided to ban fishing for many years in order to preserve fish in these waters. Since 1988 Canada has demanded that the ROK withdraw all of its fishing boats from these waters. He added: "The ROK failed to work out measures to withdraw because of the deep sea fishery businesses' opposition and the Fishery Administration's subsequent refusal. Receiving Canada's firm and tough protest, the Fishery Administration decided to follow the government's decision to withdraw fishing boats."

This official, however, declined to reveal plans to compensate for the loss resulting from the withdrawal. Ha Song-hwan, deputy fishery administrator, has been visiting Canada since 8 February to negotiate with the Canadian Government on the operation of ROK fishing boats in these waters. This official said Deputy Fishery Administrator Ha Song-hwan received a Canadian Government ultimatum that if the Korean fishing boats do not withdraw by April, the Canadian Government will take extensive sanctions against the ROK, including abolishing the benefits of the Generalized System of Preferences.

Canadian Dumping Suit Concerns Steel Industry

SK1702043293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0129 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 17 (YONHAP)—South Korea's steel industry is worried by the news that Canadian steelmakers are up to file an anti-dumping suit against steel from Korea and nine other nations this week, the industry sources said Wednesday.

Canadian Steelmakers Stelco Co. and Dofasco Co., charging steel exporters from 10 countries, including the United States, Japan, Brazil, Britain, Australia and Korea, with selling their galvanized steel products at unfair prices in their market, are expected to take the case to Canada's national revenue before the week's close, the sources said.

It is highly likely that the dumping allegation will lead to a dumping-positive ruling, causing an annual loss of some 2 million U.S. dollars to Korea because it faces a dumping margin rate at least above 20 percent, they said.

At the request of its industry, national revenue of Canada will initiate an anti-dumping investigation toward the end of next month and make its preliminary ruling by the end of June.

Without a miracle, Korea anticipates punitive tariffs of over 24 percent, or 2 million dollars a year from its annual galvanized exports of 12 million dollars to Canada.

At this, Korea's major incorporated galvanized steel exporters—Pohang Iron and Steel Co., Pohang Steel Industry Co., Union Steel Manufacturer Co., Dongkuk Steel Mill Co., Ssangyong Corp., Daewoo Corp., and Hyundai Corp.—are busy lobbying the complainants to cross Korea off their list, sources said.

Stelco and Dofasco had complained to the national revenue that galvanized products from the 10 nations were imported at below cost price last November, to which the tax administration requested an official suit with substantial materials.

The two companies and the national revenue had since examined materials for the complaint together, and it will be submitted in written statement later this week, sources said.

The move by Canadian steelmakers is understood to have retaliatory color in it in the wake of strained steel trade friction between Canada and the United States, the sources said, adding that the other nations just got caught up in the fight.

Russia Defaults on Jan-Feb Interest Payments

SK1702123193 Seoul YONHAP in English 1113 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 17 (YONHAP)—Russia has since the turn of the year defaulted in the payment of interest on the tied loan Korea extented, making it fluid whether Korea would resume extending economic cooperation credits to Russia.

A source at the Finance Ministry said Wednesday that Russia failed to remit 2.1 million dollars in January interest on a loan, and February interest totaling 1.1 million dollars was not remitted by the deadline, Feb. 16, either.

Korea earlier said it would resume furnishing economic cooperation funds only after Russia settled defaulted payment or expressly guaranteed payment in legal documents.

Meanwhile, supply administration officials are now visiting Russia to discuss the conclusion of a contract for Russia's payment in aluminium ingots of interest on the 1-billion-dollar cash credit Korea provided to Russia.

ROK, Russia Conclude Aluminium Ingot Contract

SK1802133893 Seoul YONHAP in English 1131 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—A contract was concluded in Moscow on Wednesday for delivery of Russian aluminium ingots to Korea in Moscow's payment of interest on a cash credit Korea extended to the former Soviet Union.

A Finance Ministry official said Thursday that a Supply Administration official now on a visit to Russia signed the contract with the representatives of the Raznoimport and Tsvetmet Companies, both Russia's state-run trading houses.

Under the contract, Russia is to furnish about 35,000 tons of aluminium ingots worth 38.6 million dollars to Korea by June this year.

The first shipment of about 3,000 tons will be made in March and beginning April more than 10,000 tons will be delivered to Korea a month.

Even though Russia signed the contract, Korea could resume furnishing the remaining portion of the pledged tied loans to Russia only after Russia settled the defaulted interest totaling 3.3 million dollars on the already provided tied loans, the ministry official said.

Aerospace Companies Seek Russian Joint Ventures

SK1902064993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0300 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—South Korean aerospace companies are seeking cooperation with the Russian airplane maker Myasishchev.

The Russian company, one of the three largest aircraft makers in the country, proposed joint design and production of six planes to the Korean Government Jan. 8, sources said Friday.

The government discussed the issue with Samsung Aerospace Industries Ltd. and Daewoo Heavy Industries Ltd. and decided to go ahead after meeting a positive response, they said.

Korea asked Russia for details on the proposal last week.

Five are medium and small planes—nine-seat Peresvet, 20-seat Perun, 35-seat Tu-204, 65-seat Svetozar and 74-seat Rearjet-60. The sixth is a large plane like the Boeing 747.

If Seoul-Moscow cooperation in the aircraft industry takes off, Korea will be able to obtain advanced aerospace technologies that western countries are reluctant to transfer.

The sources expect Korea to get Russian technology at less than half the royalties asked by Western nations.

Korean companies are focusing on technology transfer through the joint parts production and participation in design because they lack the capability to jointly manufacture planes.

PRC Envoy Calls for More ROK Investment

SK1802095893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0832 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—Chinese Ambassador to Seoul Zhang Tingyan said Thursday that trade and industrial cooperation between China and South Korea could be expanded to encompass everything from the coastal areas of Bohai, the Tumen River basin, and Northeast Asia to China's Chang River basin and southern China.

Giving a lecture for the Korea Human Development Institute, the Chinese diplomat said that strengthening regional economic cooperation in Asia and the Pacific region complied with the current global trend of economic blocs and groupings.

Stressing that China had a completely open market policy, Zhang urged Korean companies to expand their investment to such other areas as inland and southern China from Shandong Province, Liaodong Peninsula and the northeastern provinces.

China desired Korean companies to diversify their investment into real estate development, financial services, accounting, insurance, transportation, and oil and natural gas exploration, Zhang said.

To boost economic cooperation, Zhang proposed that the two countries cement channels for private-level economic tie-ups, activate mechanisms for sectoral negotiations, sign a pact for avoidance of double taxation, and simplify visa and customs procedures.

"As a neighbor, China has been consistent in supporting peace and denuclearization of the Korean peninsula," Zhang said.

"Because China has its heart and soul in modernizing itself, it must develop friendship with Asian and Pacific countries and the world community," he said.

Although mutual investment is quickly growing, trade was just 8.5 billion U.S. dollars last year, 5 percent of China's external trade, Zhang pointed out.

He called for more active investment, noting that Korean advancement in China accounted for 0.5 percent in number and 0.3 percent in value of total foreign investment.

Trade Gap Between PRC, ROK $10 Billion

SK1802090893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0539 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—The gap between China and South Korea in the volumes of external trade hit more than 10 billion U.S. dollars in December, industry sources said Thursday.

China had 24.65 billion dollars in trade (11.29 billion dollars of exports and 13.36 billion dollars of imports), or 10.68 billion dollars ahead of Korea, which had 13.97 billion dollars (7.11 billion dollars of exports and 6.86 billion dollars of imports).

It was only in August that China started to pull in front by 2.23 billion dollars with 14.49 billion dollars (7.88 billion dollars and 6.61 billion dollars) against Korea's 12.26 billion dollars (6.18 billion dollars and 6.08 billion dollars).

In the previous month, Korea was 90 million dollars ahead at 13. 52 billion dollars (6.36 billion dollars and 7.16 billion dollars) while China had 13.43 billion (7.16 billion dollars and 6.27 billion dollars).

China kept outdoing Korea in the following months, bringing the gap in November to 3.08 billion dollars.

For 1992, China had total trade of 165.64 billion dollars (85.01 billion dollars and 80.63 billion dollars) to be 7.16 billion dollars ahead of Korea, which had 158.48 billion dollars (76.78 billion dollars and 81.7 billion dollars).

The gap is expected to widen further this year as Korea's external trade showed no convincing signs of recovery last month while China's exports and imports grew around 20 percent and 30 percent, respectively, as they did last year, observers said.

PRC Official Promotes Tangshan City in Seoul

SK1802020493 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 18 Feb 93 p 9

[Text] Tangshan City in China's Hebei province is opening its door wide to Korea in a bid to promote economic cooperation and attract Korean investment, the city's vice major said yesterday.

Yao Jinduo, vice major [as published] of the Tangshan municipal government, said in a seminar on the investment potentials of the city, "Tangshan is now deepening its reform, expanding its opening to the outside world and speeding up the process of development."

He came up with 100-odd projects open for Korean participation in the city's development plan, including the fields of automobile assemblage, cement production, environmental equipment and port construction.

In particular, Tangshan plans to build a Korean investment area to aggressively introduce high technology and management skills and lure capital from Korea, according to Yao.

He said, "The Chinese city will provide great potentials for Korean businessmen to make investments there as it has a well-developed industrial foundation, abundant mineral resources, a good workforce with cheap labor costs and geographic closeness to Seoul."

"Tangshan enjoys the reputation of the 'cradle of China's modern industry' because the city has built up a solid industrial foundation," he noted.

The vice major arrived here last Thursday for a 13-day stay, leading a nine-member economic mission, which was sponsored by the Halla Group.

Legality of Japan Annexation of Korea Questioned

SK1802054093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0336 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—Eyes looking on Japan with scorn for its passive handling of the comfort women issue got sharper this week with an International Human Rights Organization lodging a legal rebuttal for the first time.

The Swiss-based International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR) submitted a report to the U.N. Human Rights Commission, in session from Monday, challenging the validity of the century-old protectorate treaty that annexed Korea to Japan.

Because the treaty never took effect under international law, the regulations that Japan referred to in drafting Korean men and women for labor and sex never took effect either, IFOR said. IFOR's claim goes back to the protectorate treaty of 1905 that paved the way for Japanese colonial rule over Korea from 1910 to 1945.

Under the protectorate treaty, the Japanese emperor appointed a resident-general who became the substantial ruler of Korea. The resident-general, in turn, concluded the 1910 treaty that annexed Korea to Japan.

IFOR's claims are not new. South Korean scholars have long insisted the same. "But this is the first time that the legal debate has been introduced internationally," said Choe Chong-il, director of the Foreign Ministry's International Legal Affairs Division.

"It will certainly hurt Japan," another ministry official said. "Tokyo worries that the more the debate goes on, the more its image will be tarnished."

Japan took Korean men for forced labor during World War II, abandoning them on foreign soil after its defeat. It also sent tens of thousands of Korean women to frontline brothels to provide sex for Japanese soldiers.

"In our opinion, it is the Japanese Government's duty to prove the reason why this enslavement was lawful under international law," the IFOR report says.

The protectorate treaty never took effect because the Korean side was coerced into signing it, according to the fellowship. It backs up its claim using the international law commission's report to the U.N. General Assembly in 1963 citing the treaty as one of the major examples of pacts signed under force.

Article 51 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties stipulates that such agreements "shall be without legal effect," the fellowship reasons.

Because the protectorate treaty is invalid under international law, the resident-general never had the power to conclude the 1910 annexation treaty, it says.

"Thus, all the legal basis of the Japanese colonial rule from 1905 to August 1945 when Japan surrendered its power to the United States was not existing under international law," the report says.

"Then, one may see the conclusion that all drafting of Korean men and women by the then Japanese law for any work or services including military service was illegal," it says.

IFOR urges Japan to admit to its legal responsibility and "pay full compensation to all of the victims on the basis of thorough fact-finding, which was not yet done by Japan." But despite the growing international momentum pressing Japan, South Korean officials say the debate will not be settled legally. The Seoul-Tokyo treaty on basic relations signed in 1965 confirms that all treaties, apparently referring to the protectorate pact, are "already null and void."

Seoul gave in to Tokyo's demand to put in the word "already," favoring the Japanese interpretation that the protectorate and annexation agreements were valid at the time of the signing but nullified at a later time.

South Korean officials insisted that the agreements were null and void from the beginning, but gave in to Japanese demands.

And even if the treaties were null, as South Korea insists, Japan can always point to the compensation agreement signed in 1965 where Seoul agrees that all reparations had been concluded between the two countries.

"We do raise the legality question at talks with the Japanese side, but the controversy can never be settled strictly within legal terms. We will just keep insisting on different interpretations," the ministry official said. "The matter requires a political decision." [as received]

Japan To Explain Nuclear Policy in Regional Talks

SK1802072693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0659 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—The Japanese Government, faced with mounting criticism and suspicions over its importation of plutonium, wants to hold regular conferences of cabinet ministers in the Asia-Pacific region to explain its nuclear policy.

It has decided to invite the Science and Technology ministers of Korea, China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia and Australia to the first conference, which it hopes to hold in Tokyo next month, a government source said Thursday.

Tokyo plans to tell them about the plutonium it will import over the next 20 years and hopes to defuse mounting concern among countries in the region, the source said.

Japan's Science and Technology Agency will outline plans for use of the plutonium, measures to prevent nuclear proliferation and schemes for development and use of nuclear energy in the 21st century, he said.

ROK Receives Final Part of Hiroshima Compensation

SK1802022593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0054 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—Japan delivered the second and final installment of its compensation for the tens of thousands of Korean victims of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on Thursday.

The Korea National Red Cross accepted the 2.3 billion yen, which comes on top of 1.7 billion yen paid in November last year.

Japan agreed to pay 4 billion yen to the Korean victims of the World War II horror and to their survivors, estimated at 100,000, during South Korean President No Tae-u's visit to Tokyo in May 1990.

Red Cross officials said the money would be used to pay medical bills of victims and set up health care centers for them.

SRV Envoy: ROK Inflicted 'Massive Damage' in War

SK1802093493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0826 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—Vietnamese documents show that South Korean soldiers inflicted massive damage during the Vietnam war and the Vietnamese people until recently had "overwhelming emotions" about it, Vietnamese Ambassador to Seoul Nguyen Phu Binh said Thursday.

"It's in the hands of the Korean people," Binh said when asked whether the Vietnamese people had put the past behind them.

Vietnam tried to maintain friendly relations with North Korea, with which it shared a similiar economic situation, he said.

"We need foreign investment, foreign technology, so does North Korea," Binh told a luncheon seminar with the Korean Council on Foreign Relations. "These economic conditions pose difficulties in Hanoi-Pyongyang relations improvement. But we are both putting in much efforts."

South Korea sent troops at U.S. urging to fight for South Vietnam and severed ties when the country was communized in 1975. Ties were restored Dec. 22, with the two countries pledging to put the past behind them for "forward-looking" relations.

Documents show that South Korean soldiers caused massive damage during the war and the Vietnamese people only began to let go of the past when they learned recently about the Korean people's sincerity, Binh said.

"It's impossible to forget the past all at once, but the public sentiments have quickly warmed up," he said.

On Hanoi's ties with North Korea, Binh said Vietnam's policy was not to stir up negative influence on its ties with a country in the process of seeking new diplomatic relations.

"Political situations on the Korean peninsula and in the world have greatly changed which led to our diplomatic normalization with Seoul," Binh said. "But we consider North Korea a friendly country and we try to maintain good relations."

The diplomat accented economic relations, urging a marriage between Vietnam's resources and cheap labor and Korea's capital, technology, and economic development experience.

Vietnam approved Korean corporate participation in 18 projects totaling 150 million U.S. dollars as of end of last year, making Korea the ninth biggest investor in Vietnam, according to Binh.

Just a month later, the figure increased to 320 million dollars for 20 projects, pushing up the rating to fifth, he said.

Economic exchanges would further increase if the two countries successfully concluded agreements on trade, investment guarantee, and avoidance of double taxation, he said.

SRV Seeks $120 Million Loan for Road Repair

SK1702123293 Seoul YONHAP in English 1146 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 17 (YONHAP)—Vietnam has asked South Korea for economic cooperation credits to finance a road repair and three other projects totaling 120 million dollars.

An official at the Finance Ministry said Wednesday that the request was made when Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam visited Seoul early this month.

The government plans to extend the requested credits in a policy to promote economic cooperation between the two countries.

But, the official said, the loans will be provided only after the feasibility of individual projects was favorably studied by relevant government offices.

If the loans were decided on, the money would be obtained from the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF), a fund earmarked for economic cooperation with other developing countries, he said.

Lucky-Goldstar Installs SRV Phone Switch System

SK1302054093 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 13 Feb 93 p 7

[Text] The Lucky-Goldstar Group held a ceremony to open the 100,000-line electronic telephone switching system, Starex-TX, developed by Lucky-Goldstar Telecommunications, in Hanoi on 11 February.

Ku Cha-kyong, chairman of the Lucky-Goldstar Group; Chong Chang- ho, president of Lucky-Goldstar Telecommunications; Dang Van Than, director-general of the Vietnamese post and telecommunication; and others attended the ceremony. Lucky-Goldstar said that the majority of Vietnamese people will use telephone services through the Lucky-Goldstar's electronic telephone switching system.

Chartered Plane To Fly SRV Workers to Tunis

SK1502074393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0639 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 15 (YONHAP)—A South Korean charter plane left for Hanoi on Monday to pick up Vietnamese workers and take them to Tunis.

The plane was chartered from Korean Air by South Korea's Tong-a Construction Ind. Co., which will use the Vietnamese in its work on Libya's great man-made waterway project. They will have to travel from Tunisia by land because of a U.N. air embargo on Libya.

ROK Joins Commission on Sustainable Development

SK1702045993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0137 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] United Nations, Feb. 16 (YONHAP)—South Korea joined the Executive Board of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) Tuesday.

It will serve a three-year term on the CSD, established to implement environment policies adopted at the Rio summit last year.

The CSD, formally launched last week as an organization under the U.N. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), coordinates financing and technology transfer to developing countries, makes progress reports to the council and evaluates implementation of international environment agreements.

The 53 seats on the executive board are distributed geographically and 11 go to Asian countries. China, Japan, and India were among the elected.

Meanwhile, Korea's deputy chief of mission to the United Nations, So Pyong-yong, was elected chairman of the Social Committee of the ECOSOC. The post is for one year.

ROK Applies for OECD Committee Observer Status

SK1702024293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0057 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 17 (YONHAP)—South Korea has applied for observer status to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) committees, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. It also asked the OECD to host an economic conference on South Korea during the latter half of this year in Paris, it said.

Korea plans to join the 24-nation OECD within the next two to three years. The applications were delivered to the OECD secretariat Tuesday for committees on steel, industry, and environment policy.

Participation in the committees guarantee access to global information and to trade negotiations such as the Multilateral Steel Agreement (MSA).

Seoul also asked for the economic conference, which OECD usually holds for member countries only. Ministry officials said they expect a positive response. Korea formally joined three committees during the past two years, including those on shipbuilding, development center, and trade.

DPRK Changes Tourist Policies for Foreigners

SK1802092893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0755 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—North Korea has changed its policies on developing tourist spots and attracting foreign tourists, business sources said Thursday.

Pyongyang recently sent officials to Japan to sign a secret contract with All Nippon Airways (ANA) to develop tourist attractions in North Korea, including the scenic Mt. Kumgang area, and gave ANA the right to carry Japanese passengers to North Korea, said the sources, who asked to be not identified.

The contract includes expansion of transportation and accomodation and selling package tours of North Korea, according to the sources.

North Korea has developed tourist spots on its own and recruited foreign tourists through travel agencies affiliated to Chochongnyon [General Association of Korean Residents in Japan] (the federation of pro-North Korean residents) in Japan.

The shift is seen to be aimed at helping alleviate a worsening shortage of hard currency in the Stalinist country but has so far failed to produce tangible results, the sources explained.

North Korea seemingly pushed ahead with the scheme in the judgment that development of tourist spots wouldn't be possible without introduction of foreign capital, and singled out ANA as a partner because of its interests in aviation, tourism and tourist hotels. North Korea has since last year allowed Korean residents in Japan to tour North Korea and stepped up publicity to lure Taiwanese tourists.

However, the number of tourists visiting North Korea from Japan was only 4,268 last year, and most of them were members of congratulatory delegations for President Kim Il-song's birthday, the sources added.

Top Environmental Policy Body Called 'Inept'

SK1702022893 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 17 Feb 93 p 3

[Text] The nation's top decision-making body for environmental affairs, chaired by the prime minister, has not met once in 19 months, failing to properly perform its basic functions.

In fact, the Environment Ministry has been so inept in operating the Environmental Preservation Committee that it was not even aware that the terms of six of the eight standing members had expired at the end of last year.

The ministry, realizing that the committee has not had a meeting for over one and a half years, attempted to organize a session last week but had to hurriedly cancel the plan due to the expiration of the memberships.

Environmental experts immediately criticized the ministry and the Prime Minister's Office for its failure to properly address environmental issues despite their rapid emergence as major concerns over the past couple of years.

When reached for comment, officials of the ministry's policy coordination section said there were basically no "major issues" requiring a session of the committee.

One of them stressed that the ministry and the Prime Minister's Office have been working out steps to revitalize the activities of the committee but no concrete measures have been mapped out yet.

An official at the Third Policy Coordination Office, who asked not to be identified, said there are certain problems that have to be resolved before the committee can serve its original purpose.

"For one thing, there has been no budget for the operation of the committee since its inauguration in 1989," he said, adding that the office faced difficulties in securing operational funds during its active years between 1989-1991.

As for the expiration of the membership, the single term for which is two years in accordance with the article of incorporation, he contended that the nine members are either ministers or heads of environmental organizations, thus making the membership virtually automatic.

The officials admitted that it was certainly an oversight to allow the membership to expire unknowingly but that "there is really no significance to it."

He also mentioned that the Prime Minister's Office and the Environment Ministry met on a few occasions to discuss the convening of committee sessions but they agreed each time that the issues were not "important enough" to get the top decision-making body together.

The Environmental Preservation Committee was formed in August 1989 under direct orders from President No Tae-u in the aftermath of a widespread contamination of tap water.

The prime minister-chaired committee was to meet on all major environmental issues, particularly during crisis situations.

It played commendable roles in dealing with the massive discharge of phenol into the Naktong River in March 1991 and the establishment of basic plans for improving the quality of water in the nation's major sources.

It met for the last time in July 1991 until last week when the ministry sought to organize a session to formulate a fundamental plan for the supply of safe potable water.

President To Restructure Intelligence Bodies

SK1902103993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0735 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—President-elect Kim Yong-sam instructed his staff to work out measures to ban arbitrary exercise of power by the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP) and the Defense Security Command (DSC) Friday.

Kim wanted to fit the authority and roles of powerhouses to the new era of civilian rule, sources said, and would put the measures into practice right after taking office. They said that Kim had made up his mind to withdraw all NSP officials from government organizations and ban meetings between NSP and administration officials. The president-elect also saw the dispatch of NSP agents to educational institutions such as universities as unnecessary, a source close to Kim said.

It was likely that the NSP would focus on strengthening its information-gathering activities for industry and against North Korea from now on, he said.

Kim planned to bar the DSC from investigating civilians and to limit its role to military intelligence and security. The incoming president was giving consideration to lowering the rank of the DSC commander to a major general from a lieutenant general, the source said.

Kim is scheduled to tell his secretaries about the direction for the restructuring of Chongwadae organizations and the transition in the presidential office late Saturday.

No Tae-u's Diplomatic Achievements Assessed

SK1802031093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0052 GMT 18 Feb 93

[By Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—Nordpolitik, U.N. membership, an inter-Korean basic relations treaty and North Korea's nuclear problem are the main diplomatic features of President No Tae-u's five-year term.

No's administration may have more visible achievements than any previous government. He had better timing and conditions than any other president.

But despite all the glitter, there was a gap between the ideals and reality in the five-year diplomacy and the wrappings were fancier than the content.

Visible achievements include diplomatic normalization with 45 countries, increasing the number from 126 to 171. The crumbling of communism in Eastern Europe and their cash-strapped economies during the transition to market economics made South Korea's approach to them quicker and easier.

Loudly hailed diplomatic normalization with the Soviet Union in September 1990 was outdone by South and North Korea's simultaneous but separate entry to the United Nations the following year, which was in turn outdone by diplomatic normalization with China in August 1992.

Less noticed but as significant was restoration of relations with Vietnam last December, burying the reluctant past of South Korea's participation in the Vietnam War.

No widened and diversified South Korea's diplomacy—its traditional alliance with the United States, neighborly cooperation with Japan and amity relations with Russia and China.

At the same time, Seoul took the lead in its own security arrangements, getting Washington to relegate itself to a supporting role.

Russia and China began to notice South Korea's place in the region.

Moscow modified a 32-year-old pact with North Korea that promised automatic intervention in case of war by Pyongyang regardless of who made the first provocation.

Moscow and Beijing agreed matters related to the Korean peninsula must be solved primarily by Seoul and Pyongyang.

Beijing, although more discreetly than South Korea wishes, is persuading North Korea to abandon its nuclear development by saying it does not want either Seoul or Pyongyang to own nuclear weapons.

But nordpolitik was supposed to be a means for South Korea's ultimate end—diplomacy for national reunification—and in this sense the cover is fancier than the content.

No's administration did make significant marks in inter-Korean relations.

Seoul and Pyongyang signed the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression and exchanges and cooperation in December 1991, the first bilateral pact in 46 years of national division.

They put on the table a subject taboo for decades—nuclear deployment on the Korean peninsula—and produced a joint declaration pledging to denuclearize the Korean peninsula in March 1992.

International pressure on North Korea to engage in sincere inter-Korean dialogue before it can expect friendly gestures from the world community brought Pyongyang to the prime ministers' talks from September 1990.

Nonetheless, Seoul-Pyongyang relations did not make much progress despite all the nordpolitik, inter-Korean dialogue and international pressure.

The basic relations treaty stands without implementation with all commission and subcommission meetings in suspension.

Inter-Korean family reunions were agreed on but never carried out.

The inter-Korean simultaneous nuclear inspection promised in the declaration, which officials here said would be possible by last June, never came through. The result was resumption of the South Korea-U.S. joint military exercise Team Spirit.

As No's administration comes to an end, North Korea's nuclear problem is about to leave the hands of Seoul and Pyongyang and become a global issue at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and possibly the U.N. Security Council.

"We have to wait longer to pick the fruits of our labor," a Foreign Ministry official says on assessing nordpolitik. "It is us who need the East European countries, Russia and China. We need more time to convince them that South Korea's interest is in their interest, too," he says.

Like two sides of the same coin, appraisal of No's diplomacy changes depending which side is on view.

Bipolar reactions have to do with the discrepancy between what the people expected and what they actually got.

The government was eager to predict that inter-Korean relations would rapidly progress with every move under nordpolitik, but in reality such predictions were far too early.

The responsibility for closing this gap falls on the next administration.

Kim Tong-kil Becomes UPP Chairman; 7 Leave Party

SK1902103693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0648 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—Kim Tong-kil agreed Friday to be executive chairman of the United People's Party [UPP], prompting seven lawmakers, mostly Chong Chu-yong loyalists, to move to quit the party.

"I didn't want to be head of the UPP, but the local chapter chiefs asked me strongly so I decided to accept," Kim told reporters at his home.

His remarks immediately touched off anger among followers of former party leader Chong Chu-yong, who is bitterly opposed to Kim. Party Secretary-general Kim Hyo-yong, an aide to Chong, said that seven lawmakers would hold a news conference on Saturday morning at UPP headquarters to announce their departure.

If they leave, the UPP will be down to 17 seats in the National Assembly and lose its status as a negotiating body, which requires 20 seats. The seven are Reps. Kim Hyo-yong, Song Kwang-ho, Yi Kun-yong, Kim Tu-sop, Kim Hae-sok, Pak Chae-sang and Kim Chin-yong.

Kim had called a news conference for Friday afternoon to announce his acceptance of the leadership post, but postponed it to Monday without an explanation. He was elected executive chairman on Feb. 15, after Chong left the party.

DP Announces 11 Mar National Convention

SK1902103593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0644 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—The main opposition Democratic Party [DP] announced Friday that it would hold its national convention on March 11 to select a new leadership.

The party will accept applications for an executive chairman and eight Supreme Council members until Sunday, and candidates for the posts will express their positions during reorganization rallies of 15 local chapters from Saturday through Thursday.

Yi Ki-taek, at the helm of the party since Kim Tae-chung left the party in the wake of his defeat in the presidential election, is now besieged by Reps. Kim Sang-hyon and Chong Tae-chol, who are allied against him.

At Friday's joint news conference with the two, Yi officially announced his run for the executive chairman's seat on the eight-member Supreme Council and stressed the importance of recreating a "strong" opposition camp to meet new challenges and to overcome regional animosity.

Kim Sang-hyon, arguing that the party's first task should be to revamp the party, which he claimed was lax after the defeat, said he would do his utmost to create a genuine civilian government in the future.

Kim proposed that the positions of party leader and presidential candidate be kept separate. Chong said the party should seek internal reforms so it could win the 1997 presidential election.

In a related move, 12 senior party members, including Reps. Cho Se-hyong, Kim Yong-pae and Kim Won-ki, declared themselves candidates for the Supreme Council posts.

Largest Student Group Reorganized Under New Name

SK1302022893 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Feb 93 p 3

[Text] The nation's largest student organization disbanded and established a new body in a meeting yesterday with the aim of expanding its membership and further consolidating its power.

Chondaehyop, or the National Council of Student Representatives, met at Hanyang University in eastern Seoul and gave birth to Chonchongnyon, or the National Federation of Student Councils.

Chonchongnyon appointed Kim Chae-yong, chairman of the Hanyang University student council and a junior majoring in political science and diplomacy, as the inaugural chairman of the new pan-national organization.

Kim said Chonchongnyon is planning to expand its executive committee to include all leaders of university departments instead of just heads of student councils. He explained in a meeting with reporters that the organization will strengthen its position on issues that are of concern to the general public.

Public Officials Said To Accept Hyundai Secret Fund

SK1802133793 Seoul YONHAP in English 1058 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—The Seoul district prosecutor's office, investigating the case of graft involving a secret fund illicitly raised by the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., said Thursday three senior Trade and Industry Ministry officials and four bank officials were found to have accepted money out of the fund.

The prosecution said a probe had revealed that Sin Kuk-hwan, administrator of the Industrial Advancement Administration, and six others received 5 million to 1 million won each from the Hyundai firm.

"Since the amounts of money these people received were relatively small, since the money were returned to Hyundai promptly and since the handouts were not for any specific favors, we have decided not to criminally handle them but have informed their seniors of the finding for personal actions against them," a prosecution official said.

The six men other than Sin included Sol Chang-yon, director of the Industrial Advancement Administration's Quality Control Bureau; and Kim Hong-kyong, director of the Trade and Industry Ministry's Industrial Policy Bureau.

And, among the four bank officials involved were Yi Hak-song, managing director of the Ex-Im Bank of Korea, and Kim Taek and Pak Chon-ui, both executives of the same bank.

The prosecution official said that Sin and five others admitted to receiving money from the Hyundai firm and that they alleged they had returned the money to the firm promptly.

But director Sol denied receiving any from Hyundai, said the official, adding, however, that all indications were that he did receive it.

Meanwhile, administrator Sin of the Industrial Advancement Administration Thursday tendered his resignation as administrator to Trade and Industry Minister Han Pong-su in connection with his receipt of money from the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co.

Sin said to the minister that he wanted to return the money immediately, but the return was delayed for several days because he could not locate the Hyundai official responsible for the handout.

A Trade and Industry Ministry official said the two of his ministry directors involved in the graft—Kim Hong-kyong and Sol Chang-yon—would be referred to the Central Disciplinary Committee of the Government Administration Ministry under pertinent regulations.

Development Bank Chairman Submits Resignation

SK1902065393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0605 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—Kwon Chong-tal, chairman of the Korea Development Bank (KDB), submitted his resignation to the Finance Ministry on Thursday.

Political sources said that President-elect Kim Yong-sam, soon to be the first chief executive with no military background in 32 years, had asked the chairmen of the state-invested organizations to resign by Saturday.

Critics have called for the elimination of chairmanships of state-invested corporations, which are regarded as sinecures mostly for retired army generals and senior government officials.

A retired brigadier general from the 15th class of the Korea Military Academy, Kwon had headed the state-invested KDB since July last year and his tenure was until 1995. He was a member of the Special Committee for National Security headed by then-Gen. Chon Tu-hwan in 1980, and when Chon became president he was made secretary-general of Chon's Democratic Justice Party.

In a related development, retired Army Gen. Yun Pil-yong recently expressed his intention to resign as chairman of the Korea Tobacco and Ginseng Corp.

Former General To Resign as Tobacco Company Head

SK1802030293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0021 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—Yun Pil-yong, a retired army general, has expressed his intention to resign as chairman of the Korea Tobacco and Ginseng Corp., sources said Thursday.

It was not immediately known why Yun, 65, wanted to resign as chairman of the large government-invested corporation, but the sources said it was not unrelated to President-elect Kim Yong-sam's plans to eliminate the posts of chairmen in government-invested corporations.

Critics have called for the scrapping of the chairman's posts in government-run enterprises, charging them of being sinecures given by the government to particular figures, especially retired military officers.

A native of Taegu, Yun rose to the rank of major general after graduating from the Military Academy and once served as commander of the powerful Capital Garrison Command in the early 1970s. He retired from the army in 1973 and served as president of the Korea Highway Corp. before moving to the Korea Monopoly Corp., which was the predecessor of the Tobacco and Ginseng Corp.

Samsung Admits Laser Diode Developed by Russians

SK1902065193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0556 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—Credit for developing the laser diode announced by the Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology (SAIT) on Tuesday should have gone to two Russian scientists, said officials said Friday.

The research arm of the Samsung Business Group said that it had developed the green laser diode as part of its digital-video disc recorder (D-VDR) with the help of two Russian scientists.

The D-VDR not only plays discs, but can erase and record them.

The green laser is a breakthrough that allows a 13-centimeter magneto-optical disc to hold 120 minutes of video, compared with 60 minutes for a standard, non-recordable 30cm laser disc.

It is the first commercialization of Russian technology in Korea, and puts Samsung ahead of its Japanese rivals. SAIT had spent 18 months improving the former Soviet green laser technology, a spokesman said.

'New Material' for Semiconductors Developed

SK1802022793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0056 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—A South Korean scientist has developed a new material for semiconductors that is cheaper than existing materials but superior in quality.

Motorola and Texas Instruments of the United States have decided to use the new material, called PMC-102M, in their semiconductors and other major producers are expected to follow suit.

Prof. Kim Yong-kil of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and technology (KAIST) added magnesium to a copper alloy to make PMC-102M, which can replace expensive materials such as gold and silver and can be used in computer circuits that are subject to temperatures of as high as 150 degrees celsius for an extended period of time, such as in engines.

Burma

Khin Nyunt: Nobel Laureates Met Insurgents

BK1902081393 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Excerpts] Major General Khin Nyunt, chairman of the Work Committee for Development of Border Regions and National Races and secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], ministers and members of the entourage left Yangon [Rangoon] in the afternoon of 17 February and arrived at Lashio Airport at 1730. [passage omitted] The secretary-1, ministers and members of the entourage met with leaders of the local Kokang nationals in the reception hall of the Shweli House of the Eastern Military Command and discussed local peace and tranquility, regional development, and drug eradication programs. [passage omitted]

The secretary-1, the ministers, and members of their entourage, accompanied by Brigadier General Aye Kyaw, commander of the Northeast Military Command, left Lashio in military planes this morning and arrived in Myitkyina, Kachin State, at 0940. [passage omitted]

Speaking at a meeting with local departmental officials in Malikha House of the Northeast Military Command, Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt said arrangements had been made with the regional commander for continued work on regional development programs. He explained that regional development programs could not be carried out extensively in the Kachin State due to local insurgency. He said the Defense Services are working for local peace and tranquillity and the departmental authorities on their part should make advance studies and preparations for carrying out regional development programs. [passage omitted]

Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt explained that good roads and communications are key to regional development and that efforts are being made to repair and rebuild the existing three major roads in the Kachin State in coordination with the country on the other side [China]. He added that when these projects are completed, the economic and social development of the Kachin State would be accelerated.

He said while Myanmar is carrying out its internal development projects with momentum, some evil forces are falsely accusing Myanmar of violating human rights and are carrying out political activities aimed at creating economic and political difficulties for the nation. One of these activities is the current trip undertaken by so-called seven Nobel laureates to the Myanmar border area where they met with insurgent organizations in the insurgent camps. They are trying to create a difficulty for our country by using a neighboring country.

Myanmar fully adheres to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence in conducting friendly relations with neighboring countries as well as other countries and has never interfered in the internal affairs of other countries. The SLORC is making utmost efforts for peace, stability, and development in the country. At the same time, it is striving for the emergence of a state constitution which is very important for the nation.

Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt said that no matter how much the external organizations try to create political and economic difficulties for the nation, we shall continue our work in accordance with our stance and objective. He then urged the local authorities to closely supervise and effectively implement the economic and social development projects in accordance with the policy laid down by the government in order to accelerate development. [passage omitted]

Thai Delegation Arrives for Border Talks

BK1802152293 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] At the invitation of Deputy Foreign Minister U Nyunt Swe, a Thai delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Surin Phitsuwan arrived in Myanmar [Burma] today morning by special aircraft. The Thai deputy foreign minister was accompanied by a 31-member delegation. The delegation was welcomed at the airport by U Nyunt Swe, deputy minister of foreign affairs; directors general from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Phone Myint, and responsible personnel; Thai Ambassador Mr. Wirasak Futrakun; and embassy officials.

The visiting Thai deputy foreign minister called on Deputy Foreign Minister U Nyunt Swe at the Foreign Ministry annex building at 1400. Continuing, Myanmar Deputy Foreign Minister U Nyunt Swe and Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Surin Phitsuwan, who are both joint border committee chairmen and are leading their delegations, held a joint border committee meeting. U Nyunt Swe hosted a dinner in honor of his Thai counterpart at the People's Park Restaurant at 1900 this evening.

Indonesian Minister, Delegation Arrive 18 Feb

BK1802150693 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] At the invitation of the Government of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], an Indonesian delegation led by Mr. Radius Prawiro, coordinating minister of the Republic of Indonesia, arrived in Myanmar for a goodwill visit at 1145 today. Mr. Radius Prawiro was accompanied by his wife. The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Foreign Affairs Minister U Ohn Gyaw and wife, directors general, and Indonesian Charge d'Affaires Mr. (I. Vatok Hardi Dieta) and wife.

Mr. Radius Prawiro is a leading coordinator for economics, finance, industry, and development control in the Indonesian Government with the capacity of a deputy prime minister.

Mr. Radius Prawiro and his delegation will hold talks with the industry, trade, mines, energy, and agriculture ministers with a view toward improving economic relations between the Republic of Indonesia and the Union of Myanmar.

Foreign Affairs Minister U Ohn Gyaw paid a courtesy call on the visiting minister at the Manawhari Guest House at 1530 today.

Meet Deputy Premier

BK1802150893 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Mr. Radius Prawiro, coordinating minister of the Republic of Indonesia, his wife, and delegation, currently in Yangon [Rangoon] on a goodwill visit, called on Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin, deputy prime minister of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], and wife at the No. 2 Military Guest House at 1830 today.

Present on the occasion were Lieutenant General Tin Tun, deputy prime minister, and his wife, and Foreign Affairs Minister U Ohn Gyaw and his wife. Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin and his wife hosted a dinner in the evening in honor of the visiting minister, wife, and delegation.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Commentary Views Mahathir's 'Fruitful' Tour

BK1802130993 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Countries in the South Asian region and outside are increasingly acknowledging Malaysia as the front runner in the problems of South-South cooperation and the welfare of the Third World in general. Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed has made several visits to developing nations in South America, Africa, and Asia to seek their cooperation in enhancing the economic progress and development of the South countries to counter the effects of protectionist tendencies of the North and their establishment of trade blocs.

His recent visits to two countries of the Indian subcontinent, namely Bangladesh and Pakistan, are a clear example of these untiring efforts in this direction. He has been warmly welcomed by the governments of both these South Asian countries and his views on what the South can achieve through their collaborative efforts have been well received. The two-way economic relations between Malaysia and Bangladesh and Malaysia and Pakistan have been on the rise in recent years. They can be improved further.

Malaysia has taken note of the role of the Economic Cooperation Organization, ECO, of which Pakistan is a founder member with Turkey and Iran and whose membership has now been enlarged to 10. Malaysia and its five ASEAN partners have welcomed the opportunities to strengthen collaboration between the two organizations as well as the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation, SAARC, which includes Bangladesh. There is a vital need for these bodies to bring about greater unity among developing countries, to maintain a dialogue among them, to foster solidarity, to strengthen each other's efforts, to advance economically, and to have a common response to crucial developments in the world, especially the emergence of trade blocs.

Malaysia has also suggested to Pakistan and Bangladesh to avail themselves of the services of the South Investment, Trade, and Technological Exchange Center or SITTEC formed by the Group of 15 to promote and assist trade expansion among developing countries. At the same time, Pakistan and Bangladesh should give serious consideration to the Malaysian-mooted proposal to establish the East Asia Economic Caucus, EAEC. This body is intended to be a collaborative forum to discuss economic issues of common concern and present a united front at international trade negotiations.

The deadlock in the Uruguay Round has exposed the folly of overdependence on the North as a traditional market for products and source of imports. What is needed is greater trade liberalization by the South nations which can go a long way in opening up news markets to exploit the opportunities available and foster closer economic links in the light of disturbing [words indistinct]. As Dr. Mahathir said in the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, two days ago, Third World countries are quite capable of meeting the requirement.

Dr. Mahathir's visits to Bangladesh and Pakistan have been fruitful and meaningful. Malaysia has been active in voicing the position of developing countries in the hope that this will help make the voice of the Third World heard better in the international arena. Closer cooperation and collaboration among ASEAN, ECO, and SAARC will no doubt bring about the desired results.

Mahathir Remarks on Restructuring UN Welcomed

BK1902104893 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed's pointed remarks on the present UN structure and the need to reorganize the Security Council system need a careful study. His statement made during his just-completed visit to the Indian subcontinent was especially directed at the ongoing permanent membership of the Security Council. For nearly five decades, the same five countries have held onto the membership, and these were the victors in the Second World War. Each of these five members has the right to veto any decision affecting all international issues. The World War II of which memory lingered in the minds of many has got into the realm of history. Communism has generally been dismantled and the cold war has been brought to an end.

Under the present circumstances and in the light of the changing global situation, the UN should consider changing the Security Council permanent membership structure to include countries which are active in global affairs. It makes sense the membership may be rotated among prosperous and prominent nations every period. As the term permanent means forever, this argument is not without merit and should be given serious consideration. Much of the world will welcome such a situation. Much of international concerns—political, economic, social, and environmental—are not the prerogative of just a few. Such issues will stand a better chance of being resolved more speedily if the views and opinions of others are sought. It may be even worth considering to do away with the permanent membership and the veto power and allow all 15 members of the Security Council to make a stand on matters of crucial concern or to be unanimous on a majority basis.

Dr. Mahathir was also in his characteristic style when he criticized the powerful nations of the world for using their wealth to dictate terms to the developing nations which are the receivers of aid. If the donor nations are sincere in helping those in need, their aid should not be accompanied by advice that is not sought or conditions that are not acceptable. Worse still, the donor countries go at length in criticizing the policies and practices of the recipient nations, especially with regard to the preservation of the environment, while the industrialized countries themselves are guilty of much of the environmental degradation.

As the prime minister says, every democratic nation has to shape its own destiny as democracy will be meaningless if governments fail to lift the well-being of the people. Malaysia has struggled to free itself of economic dependence on the richer nations to make its political independence meaningful. He discussed the need to exercise self-restraint and discipline to free itself from submission to the will of the others. While rapid economic development is a goal, the benefit of people remains the top priority.

Decline in Trade With PRC Worries Government

BK1802131393 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 17 Feb 93 p 16

[Text] The decline in trade growth rates between Malaysia and China is the source of concern to the government, Deputy International Trade and Industrial Minister Chua Jui Meng says.

Bilateral trade between both countries grew by only six percent in 1992 compared with a 24 percent growth in 1991.

From January to October last year, Malaysia's export to China dropped 2.9 percent to RM [Malaysian ringgit] 1.45 billion compared with RM 1.49 billion in the same corresponding period in 1991.

The decrease in export is mainly due to the decline in exports of palm oil and rubber which registered a drop of 35.1 percent and 49.5 percent respectively.

China has been importing less palm oil from Malaysia because the country is harvesting very good oil seed crops this year.

The decline in the import of rubber from Malaysia is caused by the higher price of Malaysian rubber compared to Thailand's and Indonesia's. From 1990 onwards, Thailand has surpassed Malaysia in providing rubber to China and the situation is expected to continue.

Malaysia's import from China has also declined. From January to October 1992, imports increased by 13.7 percent to RM 2.07 billion compared with an increase of 45 percent to RM 1.82 billion previously.

Chua said one of the solutions in increasing the bilateral trade would be to diversify Malaysian exports to China.

Currently, 70 percent of the country's export consists of primary commodities like rubber, palm oil, and cocoa. This contrasts with Malaysia's worldwide export which comprises 70 percent of manufactured goods.

On one hand, Chua said despite intense activity between the governments of both countries to promote bilateral trade, there is a gap between the governments' aspirations and the private sector's actual involvement.

"We want the Malaysian traders to tell us whatever problems they are facing in establishing business in China," Chua told newsmen in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Earlier, Chua received an 11-member entourage from the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade at his office. The mission headed by Chairman Zheng Hongye is on a five-day visit to the country.

As other countries like Taiwan and Hong Kong report significant increase in their trade with China, Malaysia should not miss the boat," Chua said. [no opening quotation marks as published]

Apart from the fact that China is regarded by the U.S. as the next super economic power after Japan by the turn of the century, another significant consideration is the country's application to join the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Government Expresses Concern Over Thai Intrusion

BK1802141093 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1300 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] The Malaysian Government views with concern Monday's intrusion into Padang Besar by Thai customs officers and hopes the Thai authorities will live up to their earlier pledge not to repeat such incidents. The deputy home minister, Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayob, in statement said the Thai authorities should be more sensitive to matters involving the sovereignty and boundary of a nation. He said Malaysia could no longer accept the frequent excuses by the Thai authorities that the incident occurred because of a lack of understanding of border regulations by subordinate officers. Datuk Megat Junid said the government wished to urge the Thai authorities to return immediately the seized goods to their owners. He said this was the sixth such intrusion by the Thai authorities since 14 December 1991.

Armed Soldiers Raze Thai Homes, Shops on Border

BK1902022793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Feb 93 p A1

[Text] Songkhla—About 100 armed Malaysian troops, backed by four tractors and six trucks, yesterday crossed into the no-man's land in Padang Besar between Thailand and Malaysia and demolished about 50 Thai homes and shops despite angry protests, witnesses said.

Malaysian reporters accompanied the troops into the area, according to witnesses.

The demolition followed a raid on Monday by Thai Customs officials on Malaysian shops they claimed were on the Thai side of the no-man's zone.

They were reported to have forcibly confiscated palm oil and other goods allegedly destined to be smuggled into Thailand.

Witnesses to yesterday's Malaysian raid said the demolition crews were guarded by armed Malaysian troops and watched by Malaysian reporters.

They cleared a tract about 100 metres long which crossed 15 metres into the Thai side.

"The Malaysian officials ordered the Thai residents to leave the areas. They next started demolishing buildings without Thai officials offering any protest," said Santi Panyutho, a resident whose shop was razed by Malaysian tractors.

Malaysian police yesterday intensified patrols along their side of the border after Kuala Lumpur alleged uniformed Thai personnel had intruded into their zone on Monday.

"The patrols are to ensure public safety," senior Malaysian police officer Hassan Salim was quoted by the BERNAMA News Agency as saying at the border town of Padang Besar.

Malaysian officials said the Thai officers, who seized 300 packets of palm oil, cooking oil and flour, had claimed they were enforcing Bangkok's anti-smuggling laws within their territory.

Perlis Chief Minister Hamid Pawanteh was yesterday quoted by local newspapers as saying that intrusions by Thai enforcement officers along the border "had to a certain extent strained bilateral relations."

Kuala Lumpur was expecting a full report on Monday's border incident after which an official protest would be lodged with Bangkok, Deputy Foreign Minister Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan was reported as saying Thursday.

Malaysian Prime Mahathir Mohamed, on his return Thrusday from a visit to Bangladesh and Pkistan, downplayed the border incident, saying: "This is a normal matter and we (Malaysia and Thailand) will overcome it."

12th Air Exercise With Thailand Closes

BK1802134593 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0800 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Hat Yai, Feb. 18 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Next year's Malaysia-Thailand combined air exercise will be at a quicker pace, Malaysian Air Force Chief Lt. Jen. [Lieutenant General] Mohamed Yunus Tasi said.

This is to put the participants in more difficult situation and handle as many aircraft as possible, he said.

Next year, we may increase the number of sorties to test the efficiency of both air forces in such situation, he told a joint news conference after the closing of the annual 12th exercise in the series codenamed Air Thamal here Wednesday.

The 10-day exercise was closed by Royal Thai Air Force [RTAF] Commander-in-Chief Air Chief Kan Phimanthip.

Malaysia will host next year's exercise, the first of which was held in 1982 under the auspices of the General Border Committee (GBC).

Marshal Kan told the news conference that he was satisfied with the 12th exercise, describing it as very successful and that went according to plans.

The exercise which covered air defence, close air support, visual air reconnaissance, and combat search and rescue involved 138 officers and 184 other ranks of the RTAF and the Royal Malaysian Air Force [RMAF].

The RTAF deployed five F-5Es, three OV-10s, two S58-Ts, and one Nomad aircraft, and the RMAF five F-5Es, three PC-7s, two S-61A helicopters, and one Cessna.

During the closing ceremony parade, six RTAF and RMAF officers were awarded honorary wings for outstanding participation in the exercise.

Marshal Kan presented RTAF honorary wings to Butterworth RMAF Air Base Commander Lt. Kol. [Lieutenant Colonel] Looi Kiat Hin, Officer-in-command of the 12th Squadron, RMAF Base in Butterworth Lt. Kol. Anuar Aman, and Mej. [Major] Bhupinder Singh of the RMAF Air Defence Command.

Jen. Yunus in return presented RMAF honorary wings to RTAF Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Samat Sodsathit, RTAF Deputy Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal Kriangkrai Sinthawanon, and Air Marshal Suthi Somsiri of the RTAF Headquarters.

King Offers Investment 'Gateway' for Hungary

BK1902075693 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] The king, Sultan Azlan Shah, has invited Hungary to make Malaysia the gateway for its investments in Southeast Asia. His majesty said ASEAN, with an average annual economic growth rate of 7 percent, offers a big market to Hungary. The king was speaking at a state banquet for Hungarian President Dr. Arpad Goncz in Kuala Lumpur. Dr. Goncz arrived yesterday for a five-day state visit.

The king also said Hungary could be a profitable market for Malaysia's primary commodities and manufactured goods.

Investment, Air, Visa Accords Signed

BK1902094493 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0731 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 19 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia and Hungary Friday signed three agreements on investment, air services, and partial visa abolition to enhance bilateral trade.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the agreements would (?further enhance) economic cooperation and trade besides encouraging visits by the peoples of the two countries. Malaysia will open an embassy in Budapest as soon as possible as a follow-up in efforts to enhance the cooperationn, he said at a press conference after a high-level discussion between the two countries at the Prime Minister's Office here.

Primee Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and Hungarian President Arpad Goncz led their respective delegations and witnessed the signing of the agreements during the discussion.

Abdullah said the three agreements were not only important to bilateral trade but would enable Malaysian investors to use Budapest as a gateway to East Europe.

Relations between Malaysia and Hungary are currently handled by the embassy in Austria, while Budapest had opened its embassy in Kuala Lumpur by the end of 1991.

Although Malaysia and Hungary had had diplomatic ties since 1969, the trade volume between the two countries was still small [words indistinct] to the tune of about U.S. $20 million a year, he said.

Abdullah said Hungary had offered places to Malaysian students to pursue courses in medicine, engineering, science, and technology.

Hungary also expressed interest in exporting buses to Malaysia as it had a bus manufacturing company reputed to be the biggest in the world and invited Malaysia to have joint ventures in rail transportation in the long run, he added.

President Goncz, he said, invited Dr. Mahathir to the world expo to be held in Budapest in 1996 and Malaysia to take part in it.

The two leaders also discussed privatisation and invited their respective countries to participate in the programme, Abdullah said.

Bosnia-Hercegovina was also discussed as Hungary, neighbouring the former Yugoslavia, had been flooded with Bosnian refugees.

We are happy to note that their stand in this matter as well as on Somalia and Palestine is nearly the same as ours, Abdullah said.

Malaysia and Hungary agreed to cooperate in the United Nations and, if necessary, to take a joint stand on Bosnia and Somalia, he added.

The Hungarian president accompanied by is wife, Zsuzsanna, arrived here Thursday for a five-day visit at the invitation of yang di-pertuan agong (king), Sultan Azlan Shah.

Kelantan Sultan Denies Involvement in Politics

BK1902122093 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] Machang, Wed.—The Sultan of Kelantan today dismissed allegations that he was involved in politics.

"There is no truth that I am involved in politics," he said at a meet-the-people session on the grounds of the Machang District Council here.

He said he believed in the principles of democracy and had confidence in the ability of the people to make wise decisions.

"As a constitutional monarch, I'm aware of the fact that I do not have absolute power," he said.

He said political power was vested with the executive.

As such, he said he hoped the country's leaders would always adhere to the leadership qualities of being honest and God-fearing for the well-being of the people.

The Sultan also hit out at the mass media which he said had of late tried to paint a bad picture of the Malay rulers as head of Islam and protector of the special privileges of the Malays.

He advised the people to remain calm and not to resort to actions which could aggravate the situation.

Earlier, Menteri Besar [Chief Minister] Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat in his speech urged the people of Kelantan not to believe what they read or saw in the mass media pertaining to the constitutional amendments issue.

Describing the reports as "half-cooked," he said they were one-sided and unfair. "If anybody were to consume these "half-cooked" reports, they will suffer from stomachache."

Singapore

Paper Views Burma's Reaction to Laureates' Appeal

BK1902125793 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Feb 93 p 34

[Editorial: "Lowering The Iron Fist"]

[Texyt] It may not be entirely facetious to speculate that Burma was anxious to be known as Myanmar because name recognition could call attention to the unhappy goings-on in what in the popular imagination is a romantic old place. It is fact, however, that Myanmar has little strategic weight to excite the military and economic powers, and the name Aung San Suu Kyi does not have the aura of, say, Nelson Mandela. Those generals who in 30 years of misguided rule have brought ruin to a land of promise and beauty would love the anonymity. But those countries in Southeast Asia which worry about the spill-over effects of malevolent rule (refugee exodus, Burmese illegals looking for work, heroin addiction) and care that the will of the people should be given voice in an organised society—as Myanmar still is in spite of the suspension of civil liberties—must do all they can to deny the generals an easy time. This is why the gathering of Nobel peace prize laureates this week in Bangkok to press for Aung San Suu Kyi's release from house arrest, now four years on, is a welcome event. Although organised by a Western humanitarian organisation, the Canadian-based International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, and the solemn staging could yet be trivialised by an overimaginative media, the aim of the campaign actually transcends sovereignty and the principle of non-interference with chosen political systems.

Myanmar had refused the laureates entry to interview Ms Suu Kyi and political dissidents that was expected, though hardly necessary. It had allowed in the world's press the past two years to look around. Why the squeamishness now when it had since April been releasing political prisoners by the hundreds and lifted a curfew? Well and good that the Bangkok gathering reminds the world that a committed young woman, herself a Nobel peace prize recipient, has been denied liberty because her National League for Democracy (NLD) embarrassed the military with a huge win in the 1990 election, taking eight out of 10 seats. Efforts on her behalf should not flag. The true worth of the laureates' presence is in putting the spotlight on a regime which takes away personal freedoms, which arrests and tortures those it considers a menace, and which would not recognise the legitimacy of the NLD to form a government. For brutalising the human spirit and the sense of justice, the junta (State Law and Order Restoration Council or Slorc) has forfeited its right to a defence of non-interference.

Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew, in a general comment on civilised conduct he made in China last year, noted that while nations had their choice of political philosophies, "people all over the world have the right to be treated in a humane way by their governments—that brutality and cruelty are not acceptable". What of Myanmar? The description fits. Ever since the putting down of the Yangon [Rangoon] uprising in 1988 in which several thousand were reportedly killed, and through the past five years of imposed rule in violation of the people's trust, Myanmar's conduct has been unacceptable. What of the prescription? International opinion counts, as the Nobel laureates' intercession will show. More of the same, please. But diplomatic pressure by neighbours Myanmar courts yields better results. The ASEAN policy of "constructive engagement", which means hands-off, is much too kind. Last month Thailand signed a pact with Myanmar to boost trade and investment. And the Thais had been chided by their ASEAN allies to take a tougher line against Yangon. Malaysia and Indonesia had been quiet until agitated by the expulsion of ethnic Muslims, the Rohingyas. Singapore, while mindful of regional sensitivities, could like the rest be more forthright in its position. ASEAN's ability to shape events in Yangon should not be over-stated, but unless it asserts moral persuasion as it did over the Cambodian conflict a decade ago, there is scant chance of the generals of SLORC even thinking about lowering their iron fist.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Georgia

BK1802123393 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Feb 93 p 25

[Text] Singapore and Georgia agreed to establish diplomatic relations on Tuesday, a Foreign Ministry statement said.

It said the move would strengthen and develop friendly ties between the two countries. Georgia, which was formerly part of the Soviet Union, is not in the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Editorial Views Philippine President's Visit

BK1802165493 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Feb 93 p 26

[Editorial: "Manila Must Now Act"]

[Text] The visit by President Fidel Ramos to Singapore was more than just a routine round of calls to ASEAN capitals which the Philippine leader was expected to make after assuming office last June. It reflects Manila's interest in seeking economic co-operation with its ASEAN partners after years of indifference, influenced by strong historical ties with America as much as instability and confusion at home. Specifically, Mr. Ramos came to find out more about the reasons for Singapore's economic success and to seek investments. Manila's interest in Singapore is underscored by the Philippines' economic problems and Mr. Ramos' ambitions to turn his country into an economic tiger by 2000, fearing that if this did not happen, the Philippines would be left behind for a long time to come. In urging Singaporeans to invest in his country of 62 million people, Mr. Ramos pointed to its rich natural and human resources, suggesting that it was also well on its way to becoming a haven for foreign investors. But the Philippines ranks rather low among the countries where Singaporeans are or intend putting their money. Besides Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia, China and Vietnam are now increasingly attractive propositions. Although Singapore's new policy of going regional means that it would be looking around as widely as possible for promising places to invest in, the market is clearly becoming competitive for latecomer countries vying for finite capital. This Mr. Ramos would have learned from his visit to Singapore.

Given the Philippines' economic stagnation and budgetary problems, its dependence on foreign funds has grown, especially if Mr. Ramos is to make an impact on the moribund economy by 1998, when his term expires. The task of luring investments from Singapore, or from other countries like Taiwan, will not be easy unless the Philippines becomes a good deal more stable, politically and socially, and its infrastructure, particularly power supply, is significantly improved. As with potential Japanese and Taiwanese investors, the law and order situation ranks high among the problems that worry Singaporean businessmen. The trip to Singapore has apparently sharpened Mr. Ramos' realisation about the supreme importance of tackling lawlessness on the streets. Shortly after his return to Manila, he urged his countrymen to learn from Singapore's discipline and the respect for law and order. Mr. Ramos has begun talking of crime as a leading problem, promising to take personal charge of this menace and purge the Philippine National Police, a 100,000-strong force which many Filipinos see as corrupt and inept. A number of policemen have been implicated in serious crimes like kidnap, for instance. In another promising move, the Senate approved a Bill to make kidnapping and other heinous crimes liable to capital punishment. Hopefully, this would imply a national consensus—rare in a rough-house political culture—and a serious step towards waging war on anarchists and saboteurs.

As Mr. Ramos has conceded, vital public institutions have lost the public's confidence and trust. This underlines the need to match words with deeds, lest pessimism and cynicism permeate society, making the task of restoring stability all the more difficult. It is encouraging to hear Mr. Ramos say that the time for talk and analysis is over; it is now time to act. Like rhetoric, shortcuts will not do. Only sustained and single-minded effort can overcome the myriad problems, after two decades of Ferdinand Marcos' rapacious dictatorship and six years of drift under Mrs. Corazon Aquino. The country's potential for becoming a newly industrialising economy is evident, but it cannot be attained in less than a decade. It is impolitic to raise expectations too high. But at least Mr. Ramos is talking about goals and setting timeframes where before there was uncertainty. Provided he can galvanise his people and his vision does not waver, the Philippines might yet see happier days.

Goh, Victoria State Premier Discuss 'Partnership'

BK1902120493 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] The visiting premier of the Australian state of Victoria, Mr. Jeffrey Kennet, says there will be more opportunities and partnership in the new relationship between his state and Singapore. His visit here, the first by a premier from his state for more than 20 years, is to pave the way for greater ties.

Mr. Kennet met the prime minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong, this morning. They discussed trade and economic issues, in particular business tie-ups between businessmen from both sides.

At the news briefing, Mr. Kennet spoke on next month's Australian general election. He predicted a victory for National Liberal coalition. Mr. Kennet said most Australians would vote for a change. He said Mr. Keating's labor party had 10 years but had not address the fundamental issues of the future such as industrial relations and the shortage of labor.

Cambodia

'Secret Agents' Kill FUNCINPEC Member

BK1902041293 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Excerpt] Reports from Sre Ambel District say that on 4 February 1993, a group of secret agents of the Yuon [Vietnamese] aggressors and puppets, traitors to the nation, murdered a member of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party in Chikhar village, Sre Ambel District, Koh Kong Province.

The reports claim that on the night of 4 February, the secret agents of the Yuon aggressors and puppets sneaked into the house of the victim and beat him to death with axes. People say that this killing is politically motivated—A few days before he was killed, the victim was told by a group of secret agents of the Yuon aggressors and puppets to stop being a FUNCINPEC member and instead become a member of this group's traitorous party. The people warned the man of the danger to his life if he did not heed this advice. After saying this, the people handed the man a card of their traitorous party; he refused to take it and instead walked away. Then on the night of 4 February the murderers sneaked into his house and killed him.

This is a systematic and planned murder by the Yuon aggressors and puppets, traitors to the nation, with the aim of destroying the FUNCINPEC Party and intimidating other political parties from carrying out legitimate political activities. [passage omitted]

Suspected KR Ransack Kompong Thom Village

BK1702135093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0813 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] PHNOM PENH, Feb 17 (AFP)—Up to 50 armed men wearing Khmer Rouge [KR] uniforms ransacked and burned a village in the central Cambodian province of Kompong Thom, killing one and injuring three, a U.N. spokesman said Wednesday.

During the attack Monday night, the gunmen ransacked and burned a number of houses in Sankor village and extorted large sums of money, spokesman Eric Falt said.

"Their identification is not clear, although the civilians allege that the attackers were wearing (Khmer Rouge) uniforms," Falt said.

Wearing a Khmer Rouge uniform does not necessarily prove that the attackers were Khmer Rouge, however, as fighters from various Cambodian factions sometimes wear a mix of uniforms and sometimes purposely disguise themselves as their enemies.

The Phnom Penh government troops who normally guard the village had been absent for several days, but no reason was given, Falt said. There was no U.N. presence in the village.

The attack—20 kilometers (12 miles) northwest of Kompong Thom city—was not located near the area where government troops captured several Khmer Rouge villages in weekend fighting, Falt said.

UN, 'International' Appeal Made

BK1902061693 Phnom Penh Samleng Prachea[illegible] Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] On 15 February, a group of Khmer Rouge [KR] soldiers from Division 616 attacked San Kor marketplace in Kompong Svay District, Kompong Thom Province. They killed one person and wounded six, burned eight houses, killed six cows and two pigs, and seized a lot of property.

This clearly shows that the Khmer Rouge have refused to implement the Paris agreement and have no consideration for peace. Our people nationwide, particularly those who are victims of the Khmer Rouge, appeal to the international community and the United Nations to take effective measures to prevent this cruel group from committing crimes against innocent people.

KR General Urges Peace Accord Implementation

BK1902041793 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] On the morning of 16 February 1993, at the secretariat meeting of the Mixed Military Working Group at the office of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia], General Prum Kasem, representative of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK], made a speech dealing with the issue of how to end the cease-fire violations by the Yuon [Vietnamese] aggressors and the Phnom Penh puppets in Battambang, Siem Reap, Kompong Thom, and Preah Vihear. Following is the essence of this address:

The Yuon aggressors and the Phnom Penh puppets are violating the cease-fire in Battambang, Siem Reap, Kompong Thom, and Preah Vihear. Concerning these violations by the Yuon and puppets, the international community and UNTAC have recognized and determined that these are serious violations of the Paris agreement, which the Yuon and puppets themselves have signed on 23 October 1991. These violations were committed with the collaboration and collusion of allies in and outside UNTAC. These allies have allowed the Yuon and the Phnom Penh puppets to take weapons out of UNTAC warehouses to launch offensives on various battlefields, particularly in Battambang, Siem Reap, Kompong Thom, and Preah Vihear. These violations of the cease-fire by the Yuon and the puppets were committed with the following aims:

1. To make deeper attacks into the zones under the control of Democratic Kampuchea and make noisy political and diplomatic propaganda to threaten and intimidate other parties into submission, deter the latter from carrying out political campaigning, and compel them to join the party, puppet of the Yuon;

2. To force others into joining the elections organized by UNTAC in a situation in which old and new Yuon aggressor forces are still everyhwere in Cambodia;

3. To seize territory and people from the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] in order to serve the elections of the Yuon and puppets, and allies in and outside UNTAC; and

4. To serve the common strategy and tactic of the Yuon and puppets and allies in and outside UNTAC to kill the Cambodian people, nation, and race and transform Cambodia into a second Kampuchea Kraom [former Cambodian territory in southern Vietnam].

The PDK, like the entire Cambodian nation and people, furiously denounces the cruel and savage activities of the Yuon aggressors and the Phnom Penh puppets, which grossly violate the cease-fire and have sown great destruction on the Cambodian nation, people, and race for the past 14 years; this still goes on. These cease-fire violations by the Yuon and the Phnom Penh puppets result from the fact that the Yuon aggressors, their puppets, and allies in and outside UNTAC have not correctly, meticulously, and comprehensively implemented the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement, and who have instead allowed old and new Yuon aggressor forces to remain on Cambodian territory.

The Cambodian nation, people, and the Cambodian national resistance forces, who are victims of the Yuon's war of aggression for the past 14 years, very much need Cambodia to have peace, independence, unity, and sovereignty with genuine territorial integrity. They do need the Yuon and puppets to end the cease-fire violations. They do need the end, as soon as possible, of the Yuon's war of aggression in Cambodia.

The PDK holds that to solve the above problems, the Yuon aggressors, their puppets, and allies in and outside UNTAC should correctly and meticulously implement every clause of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement, particularly the clause on granting a role to the Supreme National Council [SNC] as the sole, legitimate source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period; the clause on UNTAC-SNC cooperation to verify the Yuon; and the clause on UNTAC- SNC cooperation to control the five ministries.

If the Yuon, their puppets, and allies in and outside UNTAC continue to violate the cease-fire and do not meticulously implement the Paris agreement, the Cambodian nation, people, and the Cambodian national resistance forces have no other choice than to unite with all the Cambodian national resistance forces and continue to fight in every form for the correct and meticulous implementation of the Paris agreement, until there are no Yuon on Cambodian soil.

Sihanouk Favors UNTAC Presence After Polls

BK1902033593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Feb 93 p 6

[Text] Cambodian leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk has said he would have no objections to the post-electoral presence in Cambodia of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

"But UNTAC will have to assume responsibility for the failure or success of the peace process," he added in a statement from Phnom Penh that was transmitted to Bangkok yesterday.

The prince's statement came after UN Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali recommended that a substantial number of UN peacekeepers stay in Cambodia after the elections in order to prevent a possible upsurge of violence.

Escalating tension between rival factions in recent weeks and continued Khmer Rouge defiance apparently contributed to the recommendation.

The radicals are still holding out against participating in general elections scheduled for May 23-25.

In a report to the UN Security Council, Mr Butrus-Ghali has recommended that UNTAC's military and civilian police components stay in Cambodia until the constituent assembly elected at the polls has completed its work and a new government has been formed.

The recommendation appeared compatible with the October 1991 Paris peace agreement, although it has been widely understood that UNTAC's more than 17,000 men and women would leave the country soon after the elections.

Article I of the peace agreement makes clear that the "transitional period" ends when the constituent assembly "has approved the constitution and transformed itself into a legislative assembly, and thereafter a new government has been created."

In his latest statement, Prince Sihanouk said: "I will not oppose the prolongation of the mandate of UNTAC in Cambodia beyond May 1993."

At the same time, the prince asserted his right as a "free Khmer citizen" not to run for election as president under what he called "UNTACist" terms.

"I have neither the power nor the desire to oppose a presidential election" he said.

Already there are two candidates interested in participating in an "UNTACist presidential election" and others will join them, he went on.

"But, as a free Khmer citizen, I have the right not to be a candidate in such an election," he stated.

The prince is expected to meet little contest if he decided to join a presidential election.

But he argued that he would preserve his "moral authority" and ability to reconcile rival factions by keeping away from a presidential election that would be condemned by the Khmer Rouge.

Participating in such a race would lead the Khmer Rouge to see him as party to a "pro-Vietnamese solution," the prince said.

As such, he would no longer be in a position to provide the crucial element of stability sought by the UN Security Council, he added.

The prince said his "approach" to the Cambodian problem had been formally "recognised" by Khmer Rouge leaders Khieu Samphan and Son Sen.

The prince some time ago made clear his wish to be a popularly-elected president with real political powers.

His changes of mind in recent months on the timing of the proposed presidential election could be seen as a tactical bid to obtain this wish.

The UN Security Council would like the presidential election to be held at the same time as the legislative election.

Vietnamese Said Brought to Koh Kong Province

BK1902042493 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Excerpt] The Yuon [Vietnamese] aggressors recently brought 10 boatloads of Vietnamese nationals to Peam Toek village, in Thmar Sar Commune, Sre Ambel District, Koh Kong Province.

People say farmland along the coast, whether it has an owner or not, is being taken over by Vietnamese. Furthermore, the Vietnamese monopolize all maritime activities upon their arrival. People in this area are now deprived of farmland and all means to earn a living. They say that the Vietnamese are not ordinary civilians because they are armed. Each family has between one and three guns, depending on the number of persons in the family.

The people further say that as soon as the Vietnamese disembarked, agents of the Yuon aggressors and puppets handed them Cambodian identity cards and membership cards of the party, traitorous to the nation, of the Yuon's puppets. [passage omitted]

Defense Spokesman Denies UNTAC, AFP Reports

BK1902111193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 18 Feb 93

["Denial by the Spokesman of the State of Cambodia's Defense Ministry" dated 18 February—read by announcer]

[Text] A report by UN Spokesman Eric Falt on 17 February 1993 noted that on the night of 15 February, a group of about 50 armed men wearing Khmer Rouge uniforms robbed and killed people and burned a village in Kompong Thom Province in central Cambodia. These men killed one person and wounded three others. This spokesman further said that during these activities, the men burned a number of houses in San Kor village and confiscated a great deal of property belonging to the village's inhabitants. Eric Falt further said that the identity of these men was not clear although people in the village alleged that the attackers wore Khmer Rouge uniforms.

Afterward, AFP added unclear information creating doubt by saying that because soldiers wear Khmer Rouge uniforms does not necessarily prove that they are Khmer Rouge, as fighters from some Cambodian factions sometimes wear mixed uniforms and sometimes purposely disguise themselves as their enemies.

More recently, in a radio broadcast, UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] radio reported at 0500 on 11 February that in Stung Treng Province, a number of soldiers in Siem Pang District attacked an office of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party in Siem Pang District, firing many bullets and threatening UNTAC civilian police who intervened to prevent this violation. UNTAC radio on that day also reported that Captain (Cheang Voeun), military commander of Siem Pang District, was arrested by Uruguyan UNTAC forces and kept in Stung Treng provincial seat.

The Defense Ministry of the State of Cambodia [SOC] would like to vehemently deny this unclear observation by the UN spokesman and AFP and the dissemination of false information. The SOC Defense Ministry would like to reaffirm that since the Paris agreement, that is for nearly 16 months, the SOC Army side has been abiding by and perfectly implementing all the clauses in the agreement despite having to make many concessions. It has exercized maximum restraint over brutal, savage, and dangerous cease-fire violations by the Khmer Rouge which resulted in the loss of thousands of lives among the people, troops, police, and militiamen, and damage to a great deal of private and public property.

Moreover, when the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF] exercized its right to defend itself and the people to thwart the above danger, it was met by this UNTAC spokesman's unfounded statement. What is more regrettable is that many times after Khmer Rouge bandits brutally attacked zones under SOC control—a concrete example being the attack on San Kor village on the night of 15 February, as well as the situation in Siem Pang District, Stung Treng Province on 4 February—Eric Falt and UNTAC radio have not made clear observations and assessments that it was Khmer Rouge bandits who were the violators. Instead they have unreasonably said that wearing Khmer Rouge uniforms cannot immediately lead to the conclusion that the perpetrators were Khmer Rouge bandits.

The case in Siem Pang District was also the work of Khmer Rouge bandits who violated the cease-fire and then fled to the office of the FUNCINPEC Party. At that time, the CPAF in Siem Pang District only exercized the right to self-defense by cooperating with the UNTAC forces stationed there.

The SOC Defense Ministry would like to vehemently affirm that the CPAF does not play this game of a monkey, who after eating rice, smears it on the goat's mouth—that is wearing Khmer Rouge uniforms to rob and kill their own people as it happened in San Kor village on the night of 15 February. And in this regard, Spokesman Eric Falt tried to shift the blame and created doubt among the local and foreign public. Only the Khmer Rouge bandits, who have refused to implement the agreement and to take part in elections, would destroy the neutral political atmosphere and continue to commit violations and to massacre the Cambodian people—as they did while they were in power for three years, eight months, and 20 days.

The SOC Defense Ministry would like to ask the UN spokesman and UNTAC radio to examine and plainly clarify the above two conclusions and to publicly disseminate the truth. The SOC Defense Ministry believes that the dissemination of the above two false news items with unclear, unfounded, and groundless conclusions, will only encourage the Khmer Rouge bandits who are destroying the Paris peace agreement.

The SOC Defense Ministry would like to reaffirm the SOC's goodwill to closely cooperate with UNTAC and other parties to correctly implement the agreement, no more no less, and the determination to effectively exercize the right to self-defense in order to bring peace, security, and stability for the Cambodian people to decide their destiny themselves through the elections in the next few months.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 18 February 1993

Hor Namhong Warns Against Internal Interference

BK1902140493 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] In a statement to the press Agency SPK on 19 February, Mr. Hor Namhong, member of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia and foreign minister of the State of Cambodia [SOC], said: We are very concerned that some foreign personages have directly and increasingly interfered in Cambodia's internal affairs, making the dangerous situation created by the Khmer Rouge more serious.

He added: While the entire international community, together with the UN Security Council, are condemning the Khmer Rouge for their refusal to execute the implementation of and their violations of the Paris peace accord, those personalities have claimed that the Khmer Rouge's demands are understandable. Also, others have blamed UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] for not heeding the Khmer Rouge's unacceptable demands and have even ordered our SOC to act in this or that way and so on.

Foreign Minister Hor Namhong further said: The SOC is an independent country and a member of the United Nations and the Cambodian people are adequately politically mature, so we do not need advice from anybody in any case. We ask that those personalities respect the Paris accord to which their country is also a signatory and abstain from intervening in Cambodia's internal affairs.

Government Offensive Continues With UN 'Aid'

BK1902090693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0834 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Feb 19 (AFP)—The Khmer Rouge said Friday that government troops with the aid of U.N. peacekeepers had continued their attempt to capture their western stronghold of Pailin last week.

Faction spokesman Mak Ben, at a press conference, accused "some ill-intentioned persons" within the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) of providing money and military supplies to Phnom Penh government forces for the advance.

UNTAC has reported no fighting in the Pailin area since it announced on February 1 that a government offensive had occurred.

Mak Ben named four divisions, three regiments and one unit involved in three separate attacks aimed at Pailin in the first two weeks of February.

"They (UNTAC) have allowed the Vietnamese and their puppets to take back weapons from U.N.-held stocks. They have gone so far as to inspect and encourage the Vietnamese and the puppet forces at forward positions," Mak Ben said, reading from a statement.

"Had there been no complicity from UNTAC, the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh regime would not have acted so arrogantly by launching such large scale operations," he said, citing movements of heavy artillery, rocket launchers and tanks to front-line positions.

He repeated last week's assertion that UNTAC must be held responsible for the situation, and that if it continued to try to hold an election in Cambodia, it would legitimize the Vietnamese occupation of the country.

The Khmer Rouge believe that Vietnamese troops still occupy Cambodia disguised among the hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese settlers here. Hanoi, which invaded Cambodia in December 1978 and ousted the

Khmer Rouge the following month, says its last soldier returned home in September 1989.

"The objective of these combined military efforts ... is to attempt to intimidate and force people into acquiescing to their farce elections held in an environment marked by the fascist rule of the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets who have been multiplying acts of political terrorism throughout the country," Mak Ben said.

"The Vietnamese continue to rule every aspect of the state affairs of Cambodia, from the central government to the district level," he said.

Mak Ben also said "a few" Vietnamese prisoners of war were being held as a result of recent conflicts, and that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) would be "welcome in the proper time" to evaluate their welfare.

Responding to questions about the issuing of new currency, the faction spokesman acknowledged that money had been printed in response to the notes printed by the Phnom Penh government.

"The people have refused to use the Vietnamese money, so we are trying to respond to the need of the people," he said, declining however to give the exchange rate, say how much had been printed or in which areas it was being used.

Hor Namhong Receives French Delegation 15 Feb

BK1802154593 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia [SOC], received a delegation of the Institute for French Democracy led by (Renault), a former French rear admiral, at the Foreign Ministry on the morning of 15 February. Hor Namhong cordially welcomed the delegation and briefed it about the situation concerning the implementation of the Paris peace accord and the prospects for the upcoming general elections in Cambodia.

The foreign minister said: The general elections are a key issue of the Paris accord. The Khmer Rouge [KR], however, have refused to implement the agreement or take part in the elections. This is very dangerous. The Khmer Rouge, he continued, have forbidden people to participate in the elections and have also continued to commit crimes and instigate political terrorism so as to put the blame on the SOC since those crimes have all occurred in the SOC- controlled regions. The Khmer Rouge, he added, have carried out such activities while complaining that a neutral political environment does not exist. This is aimed creating confrontation between the SOC and UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] and between the Supreme National Council [SNC] and His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk and other factions.

Asked whether fighting would again flare up if the Khmer Rouge were not to take part in the elections, Hor Namhong said the Khmer Rouge's main goal is to retake power. They will certainly attack a new government although they are not participating in the elections. So whether or not the Khmer Rouge will join in the elections, it is inevitable that they will launch offensive attacks. The foreign minister pointed out that in order to deter a civil war, some people hold that the Khmer Rouge should be allowed to join a new government. This is a great danger and unacceptable to our party. Hor Namhong asked: Why should we conduct years of negotiations and spend thousands of millions of dollars in order to allow the Khmer Rouge to return to power? This is absolutely unacceptable to us.

Moreover, the foreign minister also spoke about the general situation concerning the general elections, UNTAC's activities in Cambodia, and the outcome of French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to the country. He highly valued the visit, saying it provided positive political and economic effects for Cambodia and has promoted the execution of the Paris accord as well.

The visiting delegation reaffirmed that the Khmer Rouge's genocide against the Cambodian people, as concretely attested to by Tuol Sleng penitentiary, should not be ignored.

Before taking leave of the foreign minister, the delegation wished Cambodia, which used to be a glorious country, recovering peace in the near future.

Indonesia

Alatas Expects Cambodian Elections To Take Place

BK1802130593 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Speaking to newsmen in Jakarta today, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said it is likely that the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia, UNTAC, peacekeeping troops will be withdrawn if the situation in Cambodia gets out of control. No one, however, should speculate on the possibility of a UN troops withdrawal.

Minister Ali Alatas then referred to the escalating tension in Cambodia. He said that UN peacekeeping troops were involved in carrying out duties relating to sensitive issues right from the start in the effort to restore peace to the country. UNTAC troops used to receive criticism from all parties because it was thought they failed to fulfill their military mission and had acted impartially.

Even though there is heightened tension in Cambodia now, Ali Alatas is optimistic that the general elections scheduled for 23-25 May will definitely be carried out as planned.

Turkish Minister Signs Civil Aviation Agreement

TA1802125693 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1100 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin, who is on an official visit in Indonesia, has started his contacts. A civil aviation agreement between the two countries was signed in Jakarta.

Today, Cetin also met separately with Wahonno, chairman of the Indonesian People's Consultative Assembly and People's Representation Council, and Trade Minister Arifin M. Siregar.

Cetin and Indonesian Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Abdullah Alatas later headed the talks between the two delegations. During the meetings, a civil aviation agreement, which envisages the development of civil aviation and air transport between the two countries, was signed. According to the agreement, Turkish and Indonesian airways will open mutual offices and arrange flights.

Discusses UN 'Double Standard'

BK1902012493 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Indonesia and Turkey have called on the global community to avoid practicing a double standard when exercising United Nations resolutions. Speaking at a press conference in Jakarta yesterday, Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin stressed that Turkey and Indonesia are disappointed that such a practice is being carried out when dealing with different issues.

He clarified that the global community should firmly exercise the United Nations resolution concerning the imposition of the no-fly zone in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin also reminded the global community that Indonesia, as the leader of the Nonaligned Movement, is playing an important role in advocating and securing peace.

Suharto Officially Appoints New ABRI Chief

BK1902073393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] General Edi Sudrajat was officially appointed as the new Armed Forces chief of the Republic of Indonesia by President Suharto at the state palace in Jakarta this morning, replacing General Try Sutrisno.

Speaking to newsmen after the appointment, Gen. Edi Sudrajat said ABRI's [Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia] commitment is to perpetually carry out its responsibilities to the best of its ability.

Mrs. Tien Suharto, Vice President Sudharmono, his wife, other distinguished high-ranking government officials, and cabinet members attended this morning's ceremony marking the appointment of the new Armed Forces chief.

No Decision Made on Agency To Launch Palapa-C

BK1902102393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Indonesia has yet to decide on the type of rocket for launching its Palapa-C satellite scheduled for 1995. Speaking after signing a cooperation agreement between BPPT [Board for Technological Research and Application], and the Communications Department, Habibie, minister of state for research and technology, said Indonesia should select an agency with credible technological expertise to launch the satellite. The launching of the Palapa-C satellite—which is heavier than the Palapa-B4—should take into account cost efficiency. According to Minister Habibie, NASA, which has launched Palapa satellites over the past 20 years, is in the best position to be selected. Considering the risks, Minister Habibie said it would be difficult to turn to other space agencies for launching the satellite.

Laos

Central Committee Plenary Session Concludes

BK1802134393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] The sixth plenary session of the 5th Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee [CC], which began 10 February, was successfully concluded in Vientiane on the afternoon of 18 February under the chairmanship of Comrade Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the LPRP CC.

Attending the session were comrade members of the LPRP CC Political Bureau, comrade advisors to the LPRP CC, and members and alternate members of the LPRP CC, including comrade secretaries of the provincial, municipal, and special zone party committees, ministers, and chiefs of the services attached to the LPRP CC.

During the eight-day session, the participants assessed the implementation of the lines and polices of the party and state in socioeconomic development in 1992. They also consulted with one another and agreed on the direction of the socioeconomic development of our country from 1993 to the year 2000. At the same time, the session also discussed the upgrading and consolidation of the organizations in our political system and various procedures aimed at ensuring the role of the party leadership and increasing the efficiency in state management so that the party's lines will be effectively implemented, thereby bringinging actual benefits to the country and people. After the conclusion of the session, the LPRP CC also issued a statement on the sixth plenary session of the fifth LPRP CC.

Thai Interior Minister Calls on Leaders, Departs

BK1802133793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, interior minister of Thailand, led his entourage to pay courtesy calls on President Nouhak Phoumsavan and Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon respectively on the evening of 17 February in Vientiane. During the courtesy calls on our Lao leaders, the Thai interior minister and his party were warmly welcomed by and held an intimate coversation with our leaders as brotherly neighbors. During the calls, our leaders hailed the visit to Laos by the Thai Interior Ministry delegation, noting that even though the visit was short, they hoped officials of the two sides concerned would exchange views and increase mutual understanding between the interior ministries of the two countries. This would help resolve remaining problems on the basis of the spirit of brotherliness and neighborliness and mutual trust, thereby further increasing and developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

The high-level delegation of Thailand's Interior Ministry arrived in Laos on 17 February for a visit at the invitation of Lao Interior Minister Major General Asang Laoli. The Thai delegation left for home this morning by a special Thai Air Force plane.

Government Subsidizes Luang Namtha Province

BK1302091393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 13 Feb 93

[Text] Nowadays, the Social Welfare and War Veterans Services of Luang Namtha Province are busy distributing a total of 400 metric tons of white rice to people in various areas who are suffering rice shortages resulting from severe drought and natural disasters in last year's seasonal rice production. The rice subsidy from the government is being given through the Ministry of Social Welfare and War Veterans to help relieve the people's hardship.

The rice relief has been sent out to various districts—100 tons to Namtha District, 80 tons to Sing District, 40 tons to Long District, 50 tons to Viang Phoukha District, and 30 tons to Nale District. The social welfare service of the province will again make a second delivery of rice to places that still need help.

According to a Ministry of Social Welfare official, in order to help relieve the people's rice shortages in Luang Namtha Province, the government approved a budget of 150 million kip for the Social Welfare Ministry to buy a total of 600 tons of white rice for the province social welfare service to further distribute to the people. Although the amount of rice is still far from meeting the people's demand, it shows that the party and the government have always been concerned about the living conditions of the multiethnic people throughout the country that suffer hard times.

At present, the Social Welfare Ministry is requesting the government for a higher budget to buy rice for the people suffering rice shortages in the northern provinces, such as Phong Saly and Oudomsai.

Philippines

Beijing Opposes Filipino-Taiwan Business Links

HK1902032093 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] China will oppose any visit by President Fidel V. Ramos or any Philippine official to Taiwan. These visits, according to Chinese Ambassador Huang Guifang, are clear violations of the one-China policy entered into by the two countries several years ago. The ambassador said that Taiwan is still part of China, so the Philippines has no right to enter into any commercial discussions with Taiwan. Taiwan is planning to set up a big industrial center in the abandoned U.S. bases in the country.

Dutch Legislator To Ask NDF Leaders To Return

HK1902130093 Quezon City MALAYA in English 19 Feb 93 p 4

[Text] A visiting member of the European Parliament said yesterday he will try to convince Jose Ma. [Maria] Sison and other leaders of the outlawed National Democratic Front [NDF] based in Utrecht, the Netherlands to return to the Philippines and participate in the peace process. Dutch MP [Member of Parliament] Ben Visser said the NDF can expect financial support from European socialist parties if it decides to come out in the open and operate legally.

Visser, who is visiting the country for a week and has met with President Ramos and other government officials on the peace process, said it is safe for rebels to return. "Look at Imelda Marcos, she is still alive," he said. Visser said he has suggested to the Philippine government to offer absolute and unconditional amnesty to the rebels.

The Armed Forces, meanwhile, said the communist rebel movement is likely to collapse within the year because of the worsening rift between the group of Sison and that of recently released political detainees led by Romulo Kintanar. Sison continues to advocate a hardline position on the peace process and has even accused Kintanar's group of conniving with the military.

The military said the New People's Army's strength decreased from 14,800 rebels with 10,510 firearms in January 1992 to 11,920 with 8,730 guns last December and is expected to decline further to 10,000 guerrillas this year.

High-Ranking NPA Leader Surrenders to Ramos

HK1902123093 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 19 Feb 93

[From the "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] Leopoldo Mabilangan, alias Comrade Hector, one of the top New People's Army [NPA] leaders in the Southern Tagalog region, has surfaced. He has clarified, however, that his surfacing does not translate to surrender.

[Begin Mabilangan recording] My reemergence should not be called a surrender, rather, an opportunity for me to return to mainstream society. [end recording]

Mabilangan, the leader of the NPA Banahaw Command, clarified two things upon his return to mainstream society. First was his reported dismissal from the rebel movement.

[Begin Mabilangan recording] I was not ousted. I am only AWOL [absent without leave], because I failed to report to them and fulfill my duties. [end recording]

Second, Comrade Hector denied allegations that he would replace the recently slain leader of the Red Scorpion Group, Alfredo de Leon. He also clarified his relationship with De Leon before the latter died the morning of 17 February.

[Begin recording] [Mabilangan] One of De Leon's men came to our house last Tuesday [9 February].

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Mabilangan] Yes. They heard that I was talking to Congressman Punzalan and Speaker De Venecia, and he asked if it would be possible for him to talk to the pair. According to his man, De Leon also wanted to surrender. [end recording]

Comrade Hector also requested that he be allowed to enjoy the full benefits of returning to the fold of the government, which, according to Congressman Marcial Punzalan of Quezon province, may be easily granted.

[Begin Punzalan recording] All Comrade Hector's requests have been in line with the peace process. How can you expect him to be part of mainstream society when he is constantly under surveillance and there are cases pending against him? [end recording]

Meanwhile, our latest reports from Malacanang have revealed that Comrade Hector has already surrendered to President Ramos this afternoon and is prepared to join the peace process. The president, in turn, has promised the NPA leader suitable protection and said that Comrade Hector qualifies for the government's amnesty program.

Rebellion Case Against Enrile, Honasan Dropped

HK1702021293 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] The Quezon City Regional Trial Court [QCRTC] has formally closed the rebellion case filed by the government against Cagayan Valley Congressman Juan Ponce Enrile and former colonel Gregorio Gringo Honasan after the government failed to produce sufficient evidence. The three witnesses who the government claimed saw Enrile and Honasan meet during the height of the December 1989 coup d'etat are already out of the country at present. This prompted QCRTC Judge Jaime Salazar to permanently drop the rebellion case against Enrile and Honasan.

Police Chief Responds to Ramos Call To Resign

HK1902092493 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Passages in italics in English]

[Text] Deputy General Raul Imperial, Philippine National Police [PNP] chief, has filed a courtesy resignation and applied for early retirement in response to President Ramos' call for all qualified senior police officers to submit their voluntary resignations. Imperial has also met with other senior PNP officers this morning to discuss the president's challenge.

Several other police generals have already submitted their courtesy early retirements, along with Imperial, including Southern Capital Command Regional Director Gregorio Maunahan; Chief Superintendent Percival Adiong, PNP Region III commander; and Chief Superintendent Vicente Garcia, one of the alleged *floating* generals [those without any permanent assignment].

It is expected that more ranking PNP officials are scheduled to submit their courtesy early retirements within the coming days. Imperial's courtesy resignation only takes effect upon the president's acceptance.

Meanwhile, Malacanang says Brigadier General Percival Adiong's application for early retirement in light of the president's challenge to the PNP is a *welcome development.*

In an interview by DZRH News, Presidential Spokesperson Annabel Tecson Abaya said, if reports are true that more retirable PNP officials, including those in the *floating* category, are scheduled to submit their resignation soon, then it only proves that they have nothing to hide, and hence they are prepared to leave their positions in the PNP for the good of the police force.

It will be recalled that several senior PNP officials announced last Wednesday [17 February] that they were prepared to resign from their posts if the president were to ask them. The president, in response to their offer, issued a statement calling on them to submit their retirement applications as soon as possible.

[Begin Abaya recording] *This is good to know that they have offered it. We have heard. That means that there is nothing for them to hide. That they are all in the service of the country. That they are willing to give up everything, including their own jobs, to ensure that they will be able to...[changes thought] The people will be able to see that they are trying to maintain the dignity of their institution.* [end recording]

Ramos Urges Vigilance for Peace, Order

HK1602011393 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] President Fidel V. Ramos has stressed today the need for discipline in every Filipino citizen. He made the statement during the opening ceremony of the National Summit on Peace and Order at the Philippine International Convention Center, Manila. The president said the summit answers an alarm call as well as gives hope to the present state of peace and order, adding that the conference seeks to resolve indignation and loss of patience regarding the state of peace and order in the country.

Ramos further stressed discipline should start from oneself and the people in order for businessmen to be able to pay the correct taxes, lessen 'under the table' deals by government officials, and in order to eliminate graft and corruption. Ramos challenged the 500 delegates from different sectors of society to develop steps to solve the problem of peace and order. Ramos, on his part, promised he will do his duty as national leader.

The two-day summit aims to establish a strategy that the government will use against the worsening state of criminality in the country.

Ramos Urges Integrity, Military Professionalism

HK1502050093 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] President Fidel V. Ramos has urged the military, as well as all sectors of society, to support him in his efforts to improve the Philippines by eliminating anomalies within the government, lack of discipline, and other temporary problems in society. Ramos stressed the importance of professionalism within the ranks of the military in order to achieve peace and progress in the country. The president said he shall continue to fight for honor and integrity, especially within the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

In his speech before Philippine Military Academy alumni, Ramos insisted every Filipino must strive and fight daily to choose the road of diligence, initiative, effort, discipline, loyalty, truth, and courageousness. Ramos added such virtues will help bring the country to development, progress, and prosperity.

Ramos Forms Maguindanao Advisory Council

HK1502114393 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 13 Feb 93 p 6

[Text] President Ramos has created a 15-man council of Elders and Advisers for Maguindanao, composed of political, social and religious leaders in the province, which he had tasked as "peace advocates" to help in the government's reconciliation and peace initiatives with the Muslim separatist groups in Mindanao and her warring political clans in the province. The president formed the Council under Memorandum Order No. 86 which he signed on Feb. 3, 1933, a copy of which was obtained by Manila Standard.

The President appointed lawyer Sandiale A Sambolawan as chairman of the Council with the following as members: Ghadji Datu Abobakar Pendatun, Datu Sangacala M. Baraguir, Hadji Datu Mudin Ampatuan, Sultan Elah K. Mama, Hadji Datu Taha Biruar, Datu Guinar Aratue, Data Guinoumla Kasim, Datu Pagopok Manalo, Hadji Datu Drus Ali, Datu Edon Salondab, Sultan Barcelona Lauban, Udstaj Abuhalil Yahiya, Sultan Akmad Camsa and Sultan Guitierez Baraguir.

The President said the Council of Elders and Advisers for the Province of Maguindanao shall be attached to the Office of the Presidential Assistant for Mindanao, Paul Dominguez. The President said the Council of Elders and Advisers for the Province of Maguindanao shall be attached to the Office of the Presidential Assistant for Mindanao, Paul Domingueez. The President stated that the chairman and members of the Council shall serve at the pleasure of the President and without compensation.

In creating the Council, the President cited the need to provide the people of Maguindanao a "more united leadership for a peaceful community and for attainment of economic prosperity" in the province. "It is imperative top the government's reconciliation effort and peace initiative in the province of Maguindanao that reliable information and competent advice regarding the peace and order situation and reconciliation program in the province be made available to the President and to those directly involved in the peace process initiated by the government," the President stated in his order.

Senate Sets 8 Mar Muslim Mindanao Elections

HK1902060493 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] The Senate has formally approved on second reading the holding on 8 March of elections for the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao.

In today's voting, 19 senators voted for the elections to be held on 8 March, while eight abstained. Among those who abstained were Senators Santanina Rasul, Tito Guingona, Leticia Ramos-Shahani and John Osmena. The date was proposed by Senator Vicente Tito Sotto.

Meanwhile, the Senate also approved the proposal to extend the terms of the current officials of the Muslim region in case the winning candidates are not proclaimed by the end of March.

The Senate also formed a panel for the congressional bicameral conference committee which will discuss the approved bill.

Thailand

Minister To Visit Burma To Show 'No Conflicts'

BK1702031193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Feb 93 p A4

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan said he will visit Burma tomorrow to show that there are no conflicts between the two countries even though Nobel peace prize winners are visiting Thailand to put pressure on the Burmese government.

"My visit to Burma is to demonstrate that Thai-Burmese relations have not been affected," Surin told reporters at Government House.

He said he believed the Burmese government understands that the Nobel laureates' visit here was organized by private human rights agencies.

Surin said several countries have praised the Thai government for issuing a visa for the Dalai Lama to visit Thailand.

"We've received praise from several governments and international private agencies," he said. "We have made the right decision based on (diplomatic) principles."

Surin said Thailand has to show its "political maturity" and maintained that the decision would be beneficial to Thailand, and would not affect the internal affairs of any other country.

In reference to the Chinese government's protest against the Dalai Lama's visit, Surin said Thailand has tried to explain that the laureates were invited by private agencies, not the Thai government.

Asked to comment on internal opposition to the laureates' visit, he said the government would be glad to listen to others' opinions.

Opposition leaders have joined the military in criticizing the government's decision, saying the Nobel laureates' mission would do Thailand more harm than good.

Ammy chief Wimon Wongwanit has said it was not Thailand's business to get involved in a human rights campaign aimed against Bumma.

He said inviting the Dalai Lama here was tantamount to "bringing war into our own home."

Surin, asked if the Nobel prize winners would meet senior government officials, said an official appointment had not been made. But a private meeting is possible to provide for an exchange of views on general affairs, he added.

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut yesterday said the best security measures will be provided for the visitors.

He said he had not learned about reports that the government had scrapped a plan to provide an aircraft for the Nobel prize winners to go to Tak's Mae Sot distnct to observe a Burmese refugee centre there.

"However, we have yet to consider it, if there is a request to provide an aircraft. But I don't see why the government would refuse," he said.

Leaves for Border Talks

BK1802141293 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan and a delegation left for Burma today at 0900 for the Thai-Burmese border committee's meeting in Rangoon on 18-21 February. The minister is chairman of the Thai committee. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss with Burma guidelines for a settlement of the existing border problems, including the issue of Hill 491.

The deputy foreign minister this afternoon called on the Burmese vice foreign minister for a discussion at the Burmese Foreign Ministry. The deputy foreign minister brought to the Burmese authorities medicine worth about 2 million baht and also anti-rabies vaccine as a donation for the Burmese Red Cross and the Burmese people. The handing-over ceremony will be held on 19 February. The medicine is being given to Burma as humanitarian assistance from the Thai Government under the 1992 economic and technical assistance program between the two countries.

The deputy foreign minister will visit Pagan on 20 February and will return to Rangoon on 21 February for a full meeting of the two delegations at the Burmese Foreign Ministry. At this meeting, the agreements will be studied and signed. Following that, the delegation will return to Thailand that evening.

Editorials View Nobel Laureates' Visit

BK1802143393

[Editorial Report] Three Thai-language papers—THAI RAT, NAEO NA, and MATICHON—on 18 February carry editorials regarding the visit to Thailand by a group of Nobel laureates, including the Dalai Lama, to campaign for the Burmese Government to release Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai on 18 February carries a 500-word editorial on page 4, entitled: "Don't Bring War Into Our Home." The editorial says: "The visit to Thailand by a group of six Noble laureates has sparked a lively debate here in Thailand on the country's foreign relations, with various groups voicing their opinions for or against the visit. Both sides have good reasons, which should be taken into consideration." The coalition government under the leadership of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai maintains that the visit is organized by a foreign human rights organization. The government only granted visit visas to them and had already explained the issue to China and Burma. So, there should be no impact on Thailand's relations with these two countries. But, military leaders, especially Army Commander General Wimon Wongwanit, have expressed their concerns that allowing foreigners to use Thailand as a stage to attack other countries may be tantamount to bringing war into our home. This shows that the two sides are looking at this issue from a different angle.

The editorial continues that this campaign for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi is not the first one. Such campaigns have already occurred in other countries, including the United Nations. These are the voices from the people who are respect human rights and democracy. How can we face the world if Thailand does not allow the Nobel laureates to visit the country?

Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai on 18 February carries a 450-word editorial on page 4, entitled: "Carrying Out Their Respective Duties." The editorial says that "the visit to Thailand by a group of Nobel laureates to campaign for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi has become a news issue in and outside the country. There are both supporters and opponents of the visit in Thailand. Both sides have carried out their rerspective duties appropriately." The government agreed to allow this group of poeple to enter the country although it knows that these persons are coming here to campaign for the release of Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who is under house arrest by the Burmese Government, and there were two warnings from the Chinese Government over the Dalai Lama's visit. The government maintains that Thailand is a democratic country which respects freedom and human rights. So, the government has carried out its duty correctly in line with the democratic system.

The opposition has also carried an appropriate duty. The opposition holds that the government will have to take the responsibility if the visit causes any adverse impact on the country. The opposition has said that it will submit an urgent motion to call for a debate on this issue during the upcoming special house session. Army Commander General Wimon has said that the visit to Thailand by this group of people can affected the country's relations with neighboring countries and the country's stability. The army chief's view is also considered in line with his duty of looking after national security.

The editorial concludes: "It is not apprporiate for any party to blame each other for such things because all parties concerned have carried out their duties appropriately and expressed their opinions in line with the democratic system. The organizing committee, which invited the Nobel laureates to visit the country for the peace mission, also expressed their views and carried out their duties completely."

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai on 18 February carries a 500-word editorial on page 8, entitled: "Don't Look From One Angle." The editorial says that the government's decision to allow a group of Nobel laureates to visit the country has drawn criticism from the opposition and some military leaders, who are afraid that it may bring a war into our home and affect our relations with Burma and China. They are just considering this issue from only one angle. "They only think of the interests with China and Burma without taking into account the country's interests with other countries, especially with the free world bloc led by the EC, the United States, and Japan," the editorial says. The editorial continues: "Those who have criticized the government over this issue should know that the government is facing pressure from two sides. The first is from Burma and China and the other side is the Untied States and the EC. We should not forget that new U.S. President Bill Clinton, like former President Jimmy Carter, comes from the Democratic Party, which has publicly advocated human rights. This is an important bargaining point with the new U.S. Government. So, if the Thai Government and the Foreign Ministry bar these peace-loving people from entering the country, Thailand will lose its bargaining power with these countries.

In conclusion, the editorial says that the Thai Government's flexible policy on human rights will help Thailand increase its bargaining power and get more flexibility in trade from the United States and the free world. Thailand's interests do not solely lay with China and Burma. This is a brave decision and also will help wipe out the country's old image. The previous Thai Government had shown that they cared too much for PRC's feelings.

Kan Defends Military's Views on Visit

BK1802152993 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Air Force Commander Air Chief Marshal Kan Phimanthip said that military leaders had not been against the government's decision to allow the seven Nobel laureates to visit the country. He said they just gave their opinions for careful government consideration because they do not want any problems for the country.

[Begin Kan recording] We were not against anybody. We just hinted that those who are going to allow these persons into the country must think carefully because the visit may cause trouble for the country. We did not protest against or criticize anybody. [end recording]

The deputy defense minister does not think that the Nobel laureates' call for an international arms embargo against Burma to press the Burmese Government to release Aung San Suu Kyi will affect Thailand's relations with Burma. Deputy Defense Minister Major General Sombat Rotphothong said that there will be no problem on this issue. The Foreign Ministry has entered into cooperation with Burma under the government's policy of openness.

Denies Arms Deals With Burma

BK1902024993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Feb 93 p A3

[Text] Thai military leaders yesterday denied any arms deal with Burma, but did not rule out war weapons flowing across the border through smuggling channels.

The denial came as stepped up international campaigns for the release of Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi press for total trade and arms sanctions against the repressive Rangoon Regime.

The Thai military has close relations with the Burmese junta, but has denied having supplied Rangoon with arms.

"We are not sending arms to Burma," said air force chief Kan Phimanthip. "But there have been smuggling activities going on which sometimes we stopped."

The Thai military has voiced opposition to the current visit to Thailand by a group of Nobel Peace Prize winners who are demanding immediate and unconditional release of fellow laureate Suu Kyi. The military's stand renewed accusations that some Thai generals have been benefitting from secret amms sales to the neighbouring country.

"We (the Thai military) have no interests whatsoever regarding Bumma," Kan said.

Kan said the military was not opposing the government, but "just cautioned about potential trouble."

First Army Region Commander Chettha Thanacharo said in a separate interview that Thailand "has nothing to sell to Burma."

"How can we sell weapons to Burma? Militarily speaking, we ourselves are not a perfect country," Chetta said.

He declined comment on the proposed trade and arms embargo against the Bummese junta, the State Law and Order Restoration Council.

"That's not my business. I consider the debate on the issue (embargo proposal) part of the democratic system," he said.

Deputy Defence Minister Sombat Rotphothong said the military would strictly observe the government's policies in case an international sanction was imposed against Burma.

Defense Minister: 'No Arms Deal With Burma'

BK1902131493 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Asked to comment on a group of Nobel laureates' call for an international arms embargo against Burma to protest the Burmese Government's human rights violations, Defense Minister General Wichit Sukmak said that this is a big issue. We have wait for the opinions of Western countries over this issue and see how far the embargo can be carried out. Thailand, however, has no arms deal with Burma.

Nobel Laureates Vow To Pressure Burmese Junta

BK1902025993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Feb 93 p A3

[Text] Mae Sot—The Nobel peace laureates mission yesterday pledged an all-out effort to bring the weight of world opinion against the repressive rule of the Rangoon military regime.

The six Nobel prize winners were closely watched by Thai security and intelligence men, both plainclothed and uniformed, during their visit to two Karen refugee camps—Maela camp in Tha Songyang, Tak Province, and Huai Kalok camp in Mae Sot.

The camps, which house about 4,000 Karens, are part of a string of ten refugee centres run by the Interior Ministry.

The six-member mission flew into Mae Sot military airport determined to hear personal accounts from refugees who had fled Burma as part of its campaign to press for the release of Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, under house arrest in Rangoon.

But with all the security around them, they had little privacy to collect information for their testimony to the UN Human Rights Committee in Geneva.

They were warmly received by Governor Chamnian Satsibut. However, Thai authorities, sensitive about the possible repercussions of their visit, kept changing their schedule.

They eventually boarded a special flight provided by the Thai government and flew to Chiang Mai, instead of travelling by land as earlier scheduled.

A large number of plainclothed security guards and military intelligence officers, about a hundred local police, and border patrol police were called in to provide an escort.

Former Costa Rican president Dr Oscar Arias' plan to meet members of National Government for the Union of Burma, the government-in-exile, was denied by local authorities, who said the dissident group could not be allowed to cross into Thailand.

Seven students sneaked in to see the delegates, but intelligence officers recognized them and warned them not to try to make contact.

Dissident groups did manage to distribute pamphlets calling for international sanctions against Rangoon.

At Maela camp, they were welcomed by more than a thousand Karens, mostly children, carrying red and white banners printed in English, many proclaiming "We want peace" and others asking "Please help us end the long existing civil war in Burma and free Aung San Suu Kyi."

Arias accused many governments of being insincere in wanting to help bring democracy to Burma and repeated calls for an arms embargo.

Mairead Maquire of North Ireland vowed that she and the Nobel Laureate colleagues would press for a United Nations resolution calling for economic sanctions and a ban on arms sales to Burma.

Paper Urges Arms Embargo on Burma

BK1902031993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Feb 93 p A6

[Editorial: "Arms Embargo Must Be Imposed on Burma"]

[Text] It is increasingly clear that the only effective way to deal with the brutality of the Rangoon military regime is the imposition of a complete sanction, including a trade and arms embargo.

The Dalai Lama, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and Dr Oscar Arias have advocated a tough line against the Burmese generals, who have killed hundreds of innocent and democratic-loving people. They said the world community should consider an arms ban against Burma. The Tibetan spiritual leader even said it is morally right to adopt such a measure.

Tutu, who has had first hand experience in dealing with tyranny in South Africa, was right when he said that Burma would fear sanctioning, if it was carried out in totality. He cited the lessons from his own country, where international pressure played an important role in bringing positive changes to Pretoria's apartheid system.

The laureates, who are currently in Thailand, have appealed in an open letter to the Burmese regime to release opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi without preconditions and without delay. It is not hard to believe that the generals in Rangoon would not give tuppence for it.

For one thing, as Thailand and other ASEAN countries have argued, Burma is a self-reliant country with abundant food and natural resources. The country does not have to look outside for subsistence. Any isolation policy would only serve to entrench Burma further in its own world.

To effectively pressure the Burmese military leaders, arms sanction must be be carried out, which would call for sacrifice from countries trading in that deadly commodity. Since 1988, the military leaders have depended on arms to control and intimidate their people. As the Dalai Lama put it, the Burmese leaders must be deprived of this instrument of cruelty.

The Nobel laureates met yesterday with Burmese refugees and saw for themselves the suffering of these people, despite some local efforts to prevent them from doing so. Their impressions and findings would certainly provide additional affidavit on the brutal nature of the Burmese regime.

Some of them are going to Geneva next week, where the United Nations' Commission on Human Rights will discuss the situation in Burma. The commission would be able to hear from them. It is hoped that the planned resolution on the situation on Burma would be tougher than the previous year's. It should include an arms embargo. At the very least, it would send a strong signal to the regime there that they can no longer ignore the world's support for Suu Kyi and the desire to see democracy restored to Burma and people's power respected.

Certainly, for such a measure to be fruitful, the international community's help is vital. Arms trading with Burma must stop. Pressure must be brought to bear on China, which has been the major weapons supplier to the junta leaders. Some Western and ASEAN countries also have stakes in such deals. Without concerted effort from these countries, the regime in Burma will continue to use terror to rule the country and keep its population in darkness.

Khmer Repatriation Expected To Finish by Apr

BK1702142393 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] The repatriation of Cambodian refugees has nearly been completed, with smooth cooperation from the Khmer Rouge faction. Lieutenant General Sanan Khachonklam, chief of the coordination center for the repatriation of Cambodian refugees, said that the approximately 60,000 Cambodian refugees still remaining in Thailand will be all sent back by March [as heard] this year, in time for the general election in Cambodia. There has been no effort from the Khmer Rouge to block the process.

[Begin Sanan recording, in progress] ...and Khao I-dang, two camps. We planned to send all of them back by mid-April, before the election in Cambodia which has already been fixed for 23-25 May. Those refugees will be in Cambodia by that time in order to exercise their voting rights—they have all registered for the election. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the army has rotated troops to replace soldiers of the 1st Task Force Engineering Battalion working in Cambodia under the UN plan, following an appeal from the UN Force that the army extend the term of service there.

The commander of the 1st Army Division today presided over the sending-off of a company of 160 men from the 1st Engineering Battalion for service rotation in Cambodia. The old group of the 1st Task Force Engineering Battalion has been in service in Poipet District, Sisophon Province, since February last year. The new batch of 160 men will be in charge of reconstruction, repair, demolition and demining operations along Route 5 in Cambodia under the plan of cooperation between the Royal Thai Army and the United Nations. The Thai Army's engineering corps has earned commendation for the operations with the UN Force. They are praised for their courage and contributions which helped restore Cambodia to normalcy more speedily than expected by the United Nations.

The new task force company will carry out duties in Cambodia for a period of four months. The commander of the company is Captain Niphon Muangphrom.

Border Refugee Camps To Close in March

BK1802024793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Feb 93 p 6

[Text] Aranyaprathet—The sprawling Khao I Dang holding centre which, at the height of the Cambodian conflict, accommodated more than 80,000 Khmer refugees, will be officially closed on March 5.

Another camp, Site 2, which is the last of seven refugee camps in Thailand, will also be closed on March 30. The camp holds about 60,000 Cambodians.

Established in 1979, Khao I Dang is currently holding some 8,000 Khmers, all of whom will be repatriated to various sites in Cambodia with the help of the UNHCR [United Nations High Commisioner for Refugees].

At the height of the Cambodian civil war, all seven refugee camps accommodated a total of about 300,000 Khmer refugees.

One of the Cambodian returnees, 25-year old Ms Chan Tee, told the BANGKOK POST recently in Siem Reap that she wasn't sure when a new round of fighting would erupt in Cambodia.

While admitting that she did not know much about Cambodian politics, she said she would vote for the party of Prince Norodom Sihanouk in the election scheduled for May.

Ms Chan Tee, who spent most of her life as a refugee in Thailand since 1975, settled in Siem Reap last September with a relative. She currently works at the Bayon Hotel and is paid the equivalent of US$40 a month which is comparatively higher than a career teacher, a policeman or a soldier.

Feature Discusses Relations With Hungary

BK1502093893 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 15 Feb 93

["News in Perspective" feature: "Overview of Thai-Hungarian Bilateral Relations"]

[Text] President Arpad Goncz of the Republic of Hungary, his wife, Madame (Susanna), and a party of high-ranking officials and representatives of the private sector arrived in Bangkok today for a four-day state visit, the first ever by a head of state of an Eastern European country. The visit is significant in many ways, especially for the present time with the end of the cold war and as the Asia-Pacific region is poised for an exciting economic takeoff. Methini Phongwet of Radio Thailand reports:

The president of the Republic of Hungary begins a state visit to Thailand today, the first ever such visit by head of an Eastern European state. The visit is aimed at strengthening the close and cordial relations which have been existing between Thailand and the Republic of Hungary. Age 72, President Arpad Goncz, is graduated in law in Budapest. In 1958, he was sentenced to life imprisonment for political activity, but released under a general amnesty in 1963. In 1989, he was elected president of the Hungarian Writers Union. On 2 May 1990, he was elected speaker of parliament, and on 3 August 1990 the parliament elected him as the only candidate for the presidency of the Republic of Hungary.

Thailand and the Republic of Hungary established diplomatic relations on 24 October 1973. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries. Hungary set up its embassy in Thailand in 1978. The present Hungarian Ambassador to Thailand is Dr. (Zoltan Zuty). Thailand established an embassy in Budapest in 1989. The present Thai ambassador to Hungary is Mrs. Thatsani Bunnak. Both countries have exchanged visits of high-ranking officials since the establishment of their diplomatic relations. Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongon paid a visit to Hungary in 1989. Among senior Thai officials visiting that country were former Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, former Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, and former parliament President Ukrit Mongkhonnawin. Former Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister (Peter Medgyessy) visited Thailand in 1989, and former Foreign Minister (Jazenski) in 1990.

Thailand and Hungary formed the joint trade committee in 1985. The committee held the first meeting in Bangkok in 1989, and the second meeting was held in Budapest in 1991. Both countries signed an agreement on technical and scientific cooperation in Bangkok in 1984. Of the bilateral accords concluded were the agreement on investment protection, and the agreement of double taxation. The two countries are scheduled to sign an air services agreement this year.

On economic ties, Thailand suffered a trade deficit of 1 billion baht with Hungary in 1991. During the period, two-way trade between the two countries went up from 1.3 billion baht to 1.6 billion baht. Thai exports to Hungary came to 295 million baht while imports totalled 1.3 billion baht. The most popular Thai export items among Hungarians are garments, shoes, cotton bed fabrics, toys, canned food, bicycles and parts, radio sets, computers, and artificial flowers. Imports from Hungary included chemical fertilizers, iron and steel, electric light bulbs, medicines, and machinery.

The four-day state visit by the Hungarian president will go a long way towards the strengthening of close and cordial ties between Thailand and Hungary.

Hungary Trade 'Gateway' to E. Europe, Cambodia

BK1602031993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Feb 93 p A6

[Editorial: "A Good Start Indeed for Thai-Hungarian Relations"]

[Text] The visit of Hungarian President Arpad Goncz here this week begins a new era in Thai-Hungarian relations—the cornerstone of Thailand's foreign policy toward Eastern European.

For Thailand, Hungary is a fine example of the region's entrepreneurial spirit. That country has been very pragmatic throughout difficult times, trying to survive economically against all odds when the region was still Marxist oriented.

While other Eastern European countries are struggling to overcome their ideological backlash, Hungary thrives and has become one of the most democratic states in that area.

Indeed, Thailand enjoyed the closest ties with Hungary, even before the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe a few years back. Former Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon visited Budapest in 1988 when the international scene was changing rapidly. It was a trip that cemented Thai-Hungarian friendship. Since then, bilateral ties have been strengthened and trade developed.

A year later, Crown Prince Wachiralongkon visited Hungary, which at the time still had a socialist economy. But the hospitality accorded by the Hungarian Government at that time was impressive. That friendship continues to flourish. Goncz's trip comes at a time when the two need to boost trade and investment cooperation.

Driving Force

Two-way trade is still marginal in comparison with other bilateral trade, but the trends are good. Two-way trade in 1991 was valued at Btl.59 billion, of which Thailand imported Bt [baht] 1.29 billion in medicine, chemicals and machinery. In return, Hungary imported coffee, garments and textiles, canned food and jewelry from Thailand.

Hungary has long treated Thailand as a gateway to the rest of Southeast Asia, especially the ASEAN and Indochinese countries. With a market-oriented economy, the Hungarian private sector has become the driving force in the country's economic development.

Hungarian business people have struck up partnerships with Thai counterparts, taking advantage of existing bilateral trade and economic agreements. Last year, a large Thai trade delegation visited Hungary to obtain first-hand information on its prospects and business opportunities.

Trade With Cambodia

In future, Hungary could develop into an important market for Thai consumer products. That country can also serve as a transitional point to Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States as well as to the rest of Eastern Europe. The close ties with Hungary will also be useful in the future when Hungary, the Czech and Slovak republics and Poland form a free trade area.

With expertise and knowledge of Indochina, Hungary can be of great value to Thai business people wanting to form tripartite business ventures there. Hungary is the leading Eastern European country trading with Cambodia, where it has been playing an important role in economic development and technical training.

The Hungarian private sector has also expressed a desire to enter into joint ventures with the Thai private sector and explore the Indochinese region. Such cooperation should be explored and implemented to the fullest possible.

Hungarian President Ends Visit, Departs

BK1802145093 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] His majesty the king granted an audience to Hungarian President Arpad Goncz and his wife at Chitlada Palace today at 0855. The Hungarian president and his wife took leave with his majesty the king after ending their official visit to Thailand as royal guests.

After the audience, the king and his royal guests left Chitlada Palace for the Royal Thai Air Force Airport of Don Muang. At the airport, they were seen off by Prime Minister Chuan Likphai; Air Chief Marshal Kan Phimanthip, Air Force commander; members of the Privy Council, cabinet, diplomatic corps, military, police, and civilian officials; and members of the public. The king accompanied the Hungarian president to review the guard of honor before the royal guests departed from Thailand.

Vietnam

Radio Comments on Khmer Rouge Rejecting Elections

BK1802120293 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Democratic Kampuchea has once again rejected the general election in Cambodia scheduled for this May. Here is our comment:

The Khmer Rouge has rejected well wishes of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia with its ill-intentioned activities. During a press conference in Phnom Penh recently, Mr. Mak Ben, a Democratic Kampuchean officer, declared it would not take part in the general election.

Meanwhile, they continue their military activities, causing conflict in the country. According to the office of the Cambodian government's spokesman last week, a group of soldiers belonging to the Democratic Kampuchea 988th Division launched a combined attack against Siam Reap town, killing three people, and injuring seven others, including local civilians.

More alarming was that during the attack, the Democratic Kampuchea fired B-62 rockets at the town hospital. They also took away a great quantity of brochures, property and antiques of the Cambodian state and individual people, including even the precious statues, and damaging all their property.

Obviously these activities of the Khmer Rouge have caused a standstill to the peace process in Cambodia. Public opinion in Cambodia, from many other countries in the world, are worried that if this situation continues, the peace agreement on Cambodia can hardly be implemented, and the civil war can hardly be avoided.

President Lu Duc Anh Receives Thai Princess

BK1802151793 Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 18—President Le Duc Anh received here this afternoon Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon, who is currently on an official visit to Vietnam.

The Vietnamese president expressed his pleasure at learning about Princes Maha Chakkri Sirinthon's interests in Eastern ethnology. He said he hoped that during her stay in Vietnam, the princess would have the opportunity to enrich her knowledge of the Vietnamese ethnology, culture and history.

The president also said that the Vietnamese-Thai multilateral relations have achieved a new step of development, and that Vietnam will do what it can to further consolidate and develop those relations. He asked the princess to convey his best regards and wishes to His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet and the royal family of Thailand. He wished the princess's visit fine success.

For her part, Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon said although her visit was barely two days old, she already had a fine impression of the land and people, and the history and culture of Vietnam. She thanked President Le Duc Anh and other Vietnamese leaders for their hospitality and expressed her hope that the neighbourly friendship and cooperation of mutual benefit between the two countries. Cooperation of mutual benefit between the two countries will constantly be developed. Present at the reception were Nguyen Viet Dung, director of the President's Office Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan and Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Nguyen Trung. Thai Ambassador to Vietnam Banthan Manklang was on hand.

Second International Bank Opens Hanoi Branch

BK1702143793 Hanoi VNA in English 1424 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi, VNA Feb 17 - Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd. (ANZ) opened its branch here today, becoming the second international bank to establish a working presence in Hanoi after Credit Lyonnais of France.

Present at the innaugural ceremony were Cabinet Minister Phan Van Tiem, vice chairman of the Financial and Monetary Council, and Nguyen Ngoc Oanh, deputy governor of the Vietnam State Bank.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Alister Milen, ANZ executive director, expressed his hope that the presence of his group in Hanoi would help speed un and broaden the cooperation and investment activities of foreign investors, especially those from Australia and New Zealand, in Vietnam.

Skilled Labor Exported to South Korea, Japan

BK1502143993 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 13 Feb 93

[Text] One of the main duties of the Investment and Export-Import General Corporation (Inteco), under the Ministry of Communications and Transportation, is exporting labor and expertise. The General Corporation has performed well the tasks of marketing as well as closely understanding the labor force in the country. For 1993, it has gained many contracts to send about 2,000 highly-skilled Vietnamese workers to work in foreign countries.

For the first trip in February, 250 workers specializing in mechanics and metallurgy are about to leave to work in

South Korea and Japan. These workers were selected from Ministry of Communications and Transportation production establishments.

DPRK Embassy Discusses Nuclear Inspections

BK1702144193 Hanoi VNA in English 1415 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 17—Charge d'Affaires A.I. [ad interim] of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in Vietnam Ri Quan-il [name as received] held here today a press conference to introduce the content of the nuclear inspection issue in his country and the relations between the D.P.R.K. with the International Organization of Atomic Energy.

Many representatives of the mass media, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee's External Relation Commission attended.

Higher Education Agreement Signed With Russia

BK1902064993 Hanoi VNA in English 0611 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 19 - An agreement on cooperation in higher education for the 1993-1995 period was signed yesterday between First Vice Minister of Education and Training Pham Minh Hac, and Deputy Head of the Higher Education Committee of the Russian Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Technical Policy S.A. Valyev.

Under the agreement, the two sides will cooperate in the promotion of the effectiveness of the direct relations between the universities of the two countries, raising the standard of teachers carry on the current programme of training Vietnameses students and post-graduates in Russia, cooperate in the teaching of Russian and Vietnamese, etc.

The two sides will also exchange students, postgraduates, practitioners and researchers. While in Vietnam, the Russian delegation was received by Vice Premier Nguyen Khanh.

Mongolian Economic Delegation Visits 14-18 Feb

BK1802150793 Hanoi VNA in English 1456 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi February 18 [dateline as received]—A delegation of the Mongolian Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations and Supplies led by S. Khurelbaatar [name as received], head of its Afro-Asia department, paid a visit to Vietnam from Feb. 14-18 at the invitation of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

While here the delegation paid a tribute to the late President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and visited his home and office. It was received by Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry Nguyen Cong Tan, chairman of the Vietnamese section of the Vietnam-Mongolia intergovernmental commission for economic, scientific and technical cooperation, Hoang Minh Thang, chairman of the Vietnam-Mongolia Friendship Associaton, Vu Khoan, deputy foreign minister, and Nguyen Chi Dung, deputy minister of light industry.

The Mongolian guests held talks with Nguyen Van Hieu, head of the Northeast Asia Department of the Foreign Ministry in which the two sides compared notes on the development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

They also had working sessions with the Ministry of Commerce, the central council of non-state busiesses, and called at a number of economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi.

French Ambassador Concludes Term

BK1802145993 Hanoi VNA in English 1450 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 18—French Ambassador to Vietnam Claude Blachemaison left here for home yesterday, concluding his term of office in Vietnam.

Party Central Committee Resolutions Publicized

BK1602071093 Hanoi VNA in English 0558 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb.16—The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Seventh Congress, at its plenum held in Hanoi from Jan. 4-14 discussed major orientations to increase the care for and fostering of the human factor and adopted five related resolutions.

These are: a resolution on education and training, a resolution on culture and arts, a resolution on urgent questions relating to public health care and protection, a resolution on the population and family planning policy and a resolution on youth work.

All newspapers in Hanoi today and yesterday publish in full all the five resolutions. VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY will introduce to its readers the main points of these resolutions in the days to come. In a relevant editorial, the national daily NHAN DAN yesterday said that all the five resolutions aim to prepare the people to enter the new stage, foster a new generation with high-determination, and intellectually and physically capable of accomplishing the task of building a prosperous and strong country and a socialist-oriented and civilized society and to drive back and prevent negative phenomena in the new situation.

The editorial went on: 'Caring for the spiritual life and health of the people requires a reasonable increase of investment as pointed out in the resolution. The National Assembly has decided to increase spendings on education, public health, culture, population activity and family planning. The government has also adopted a number of policies and regimes to encourage and support cultural and art activities. However, as the country remains poor, there cannot be a considerable increase of spendings on education, culture and public health in the immediate future. Therefore, it is necessary to make the utmost use of all potentials available in the localities and among the population in most diversified forms to raise the quality of cultural, art, healthcare and other social activities'.

Central Committee Adopts Resolution on Education

BK1702145393 Hanoi VNA in English 1413 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 17—The Central Committee [CC] of the Communist Party of Vietnam, seventh congress, at its plenum held in Hanoi from Jan. 4-14 adopted a resolution on the continuation of renovation of education and training.

The resolution notes that the educational reforms effected under Resolution 14 of the Political Bureau of the party CC, fourth congress (1979), on educational renovation already laid down a number of correct policies, but it set a number of too high objectives with inappropriate contents.

Accordingly, most of the teachers have not been retrained to meet the demand of the educational reform. They are meeting with many difficulties in their daily life. The system of teachers' colleges is too weak, its standard too low. This weakness and deficiency of the contingent and the teachers' college system has reached alarming dimensions. The colleges' material and technical bases are very poor, many school buildings have deteriorated seriously, and laboratories for scientific researches are both deficient and obsolete.

Following are a number of major policies and measures on education in the years to come:

—To continue perfecting the new structure of the national education system. To consolidate the public schools, and transform a number of them into semi-public schools. To encourage the opening of community-run schools. To allow the opening of private schools and classes for pre-school children, and for job-training, vocational and higher education. Private schools in general education are prohibited.

—To reorganize the systems of schools aimed at raising the effectiveness of investment, the use of material bases and the contingent of teachers. In particular, the universities, colleges, and scientific research institutes must be organized rationally to associate the institutes with the schools, and education and training with scientific research.

—To build step by step high-quality schools in all disciplines, educational degrees and grades to broaden the systems of schools and classes for gifted students in general education to build a number of key national universities.

—To see that by the year 2000 illiteracy will have been eradicated among the working people in the 15-35 age group, to actively reduce the number of illiterates in other age groups, to complete the universalisation of primary education, first of all for children aged from 6 to 14, to speed up the universalisation of secondary education, especially in the urban areas.

—To provide education in working skill and vocational guidance for students along the line of combining general with vocational education, and to step up the specialized secondary education degress.

—To broaden job education to develop community-run and private job-training schools and classes, to encourage the teaching of traditional jobs, and to properly remunerate teaching artisans.

—To expand university training to an appropriate level. To expand the post-graduate system and to promote post-graduate training.

—To pay special attention to the education of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's thoughts, the humanist content and national character of culture, and assimilate the best cultural values of mankind.

—To broaden the teaching and learning of foreign languages and informatics. To carry out well the programe of defence education.

—To readjust the collection of school fees. To exempt school fees in primary education. To determine the categories of school children and students to be exempted from or enjoy reduction of school fees, or to receive scholarships and other allowances. To set up funds in support of education with financial assistance from individuals and organizations inside and outside the country, to abolish all unreasonable and arbitrary contributions by pupils and students.

Asian-Pacific Economic Center Founded

BK1402151993 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 10 Feb 93

[Text] In order to enhance trade and economic relations with foreign countries, especially countries in the Asia-Pacific area, it is necessary to carry out careful surveys and studies to help Vietnamese businessmen set up closer links with the countries in the area and speed up integration with and participation in international labor distribution in the Asia-Pacific region.

With that in view, the Vietnamese Government has permitted the establishment of Vietnam's Asian Pacific Economic Center, a Vietnamese nongovernment and nonprofit organization. A conference to mark the formation of the organization was held in Hanoi recently, with the attendance of Minister of Education and Training

Tran Hoang Quan, Minister for Science, Technology and Environment Dang Huu, and many other professors and scientists.

At the conference, attendants also discussed details of regulations governing the Asian Pacific Economic Center.

AIT Opens Technology Training Research Center

BK1702082793 Hanoi VNA in English 0600 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 17—A memorandum of agreement on establishment of a training and research center in Vietnam was signed here on Feb. 16 by Prof. Dr. Pham Minh Hao, first vice-minister of education and training, and Prof. Dr. Alastair North, president of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT).

Attending the signing ceremony were Nguyen Dinh Tu, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and head of the Commission for Science and Education, Le Xuan Trinh, cabinet minister, head of the government office and Dang Huu, minister of science, technology and environment.

The agreement paves the way for the establishment of an AIT Center in Vietnam (AITCV). The AITCV will have the status of an international organization, serving Vietnam's human resources development needs through training, research, consultancy and information services. The AITCV will focus its activities on three major fields: management, industrial technology, and agricultural technology.

The Finnish International Development Agency (FINNIDA) is providing initial support to the establishment of AITCV. The government of Vietnam is providing the center with an interim office in Hanoi, and a 50-ha plot of land for the center's permanent facilities. It has two branches, one in Hanoi and the other in Ho Chi Minh City.

Founded in 1959, AIT, which is funded by over 30 governments from the developed and developing countries, is a unique institution for advanced technological education.

It enrolls students from over 40 countries in Asia and other regions, AIT has graduated 176 Vietnamese, and now 100 others are studying at the institute.

Bac Thai Television Relay Stations Completed

BK1702112193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] With the joint efforts of the Hanoi Union of Radio and Television Enterprises, the Bac Thai Province radio and television service has completed the installation of two television relay stations in the mountain districts of Vo Nhai and Na Ri with an investmment capital of 200 million dong for each station.

So far, Bac Thai Province has completed the installation of nine television relay stations to create conditions for local ethnic minority compatriots to have direct access to television programs from the Central Television Network.

The province is continuing to expand its television network. As an immediate objective, concentrated efforts are being made to build a television station in Thai Nguyen City. The project is expected to be put into operation in May 1993.

Vo Van Kiet Visits Ba Ria-Vung Tau, Dong Nai

BK1402142793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Recently, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet held working sessions with leading officials in Ba Ria-Vung Tau and Dong Nai Provinces on the socioeconomic development for 1993 and on Vung Tau and Bien Hoa city planning.

At his working session in Ba Ria-Vung Tau, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet was briefed by Comrade Pham Van Huy, secretary of the provincial party committee, and Comrade Nguyen Minh Ninh, chairman of the provincial people's committee, on the results of the socioeconomic development plan for 1992. The comrade representatives of the Ministry of Building and Building Service presented detailed reports on Vung Tau city planning.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet commended local officials for having promptly formulated appropriate economic structures for Ba Ria-Vung Tau following the establishment of this province in 1992, for having brought into play the dynamism and creativeness of all economic sectors to accelerate socioeconomic development at a fairly fast pace, and for having overfulfilled the planned targets for 1992.

Regarding the orientations for 1993, the prime minister suggested: Being a province with the largest oil and gas industry in our country at present, Ba Ria-Vung Tau should define even more clearly its economic structures to effectively exploit the capabilities of agriculture, sea products sector, and industry, bearing in mind the need to link these structures with and meet the city's development needs on a first priority basis.

As far as agriculture is concerned, steps must be taken to reorganize crop cultivation and animal husbandry patterns. At the same time, efforts must be made to satisfactorily resolve the need for water irrigation sources, to apply technological innovations to production, and to ensure high labor productivity and fine quality to meet the increasingly greater needs of the city for meat, eggs, and fruit and vegetables. It is necessary for the rural people in Ba Ria-Vung Tau to work toward the goal of meeting all city needs for saplings and animal breeders. Rural development must be adjusted a step further and efforts are needed to resolutely shift part of local peasants to the commodity economy to meet city and export demands. Bold measures must be taken to resolutely shift those poorly performing agricultural production sectors to the building of water reservoirs to partly help resolve the serious water shortages now facing industry and daily consumers in Vung Tau.

After pointing out key development orientations for industrial, small industrial, and handicraft activities in Ba Ria-Vung Tau, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet touched on Vung Tau city planning. At present and in the future, owing to its existing name and conditions, Vung Tau is linked with Con Son Island and serves not only Ba Ria-Vung Tau but the region as a whole. Therefore, in formulating a general zoning plan and development projects, one must reflect the fact that since this is a modern and culturally aware city, it must meet such strict requirements as exclusion of industrial facilities which pollute the environment, a stable population growth rate for a fixed period of time, a reasonable ratio of public utility and park projects, and a sufficient number of infrastructures of a national and international stature to serve the city.

In Dong Nai Province, after being briefed by Comrade Pham Van Trang, secretary of the provincial party committee, and Comrade Huynh Van Binh, chairman of the provincial people's committee, on the results of the implementation of socioeconomic development tasks for 1992, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet observed: Despite the fact that the socioeconomic situation was rife with many difficulties, in 1992, Dong Nai Province did make development steps and effect positive changes. The economic growth rate has remained quite high. Security and political stablility have firmly been maintained.

In contributing his suggestions to the local development orientations for 1993, the prime minister said: Dong Nai should make efforts to achieve higher results than in 1992 and henceforth create the premises for significant changes in subsequent years and, together with the entire nation, contribute to fulfilling or overfulfilling the targets set by the Seventh party Congress for the period prior to the year 1995, of which the most important goal will be to lead our country out of a crisis situation.

Regarding Bien Hoa city planning, the prime minister maintained that, despite its small scale, Bien Hoa is closely linked with a major industrial center. Therefore, the city must serve both as the heart of the province and also as a political, economic, and external economic services center of the entire economic triangle formed by Ba Ria-Vung Tau, Bien Hoa, and Ho Chi Minh City. At present, the infrastructures of Bien Hoa City are very weak. Therefore, prompt efforts must be made to formulate a short- and long-term building plan. Measures are needed to mobilize all capital sources, including foreign capital, to meet this end. It is necessary to review and upgrade existing power transmission networks and immediately work out a new investment plan to build a powerline to receive electricity from the north. It is necessary to devise a general zoning plan to resolve water shortages and to promptly help with the building of the Thien Tan waterwork. The government will consider a plan submitted by the province to upgrade Bien Hoa into a category-II city.

Police Logistics Department Sets Plan for 1993

BK1402124193 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 8 Feb 93

[Text] In Hanoi recently, the Police General Department has held conference to discuss police operation support service plan for the force in 1993, so as to advance the quality of the operations, to step up the battle against crimes, to maintain public safety and order, and to implement resolution No 3 on national defense and the security and modernization of equipment for the People's Police Force.

At the beginning of 1993 the Police Logistics sector has positively initiated measures and concrete directions which are in accordance with the operational reality of the whole force in the new situation. These directions are to step up changes in the management structure for logistical tasks, to improve the division of tasks and of authoritative echelons in the management of police support services and equipment, and to assess correctly and properly the requirements and needs of each police unit.

Feb Issue of TAP CHI CONG SAN Reviewed

BK1802143893 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 13 Feb 93

[Summary] Implementing the seventh party Central Committee's Fourth Plenum resolutions, in the February 1993 issue, TAP CHI CONG SAN carries an editorial entitled "Build a Firm Moral Foundation for the New Regime." The editorial "points out some of the party Central Committee's fundamental viewpoints that should be profoundly understood by all party committee echelons, state agencies, and socioeconomic organizations." These include "the viewpoints concerning the human factor, human resources, and human happiness in national construction and defense."

"In addition to the editorial, the journal also carries a series of articles in direct support of propaganda work for the implementation of the aforementioned plenum resolutions." Apart from Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi's speech at the plenum under the title "Care for, Foster, and Develop the Human Factor with the Aim of Making the People Prosperous, the Country Powerful, and Society Civilized," there are:

—Article "Improve and Develop Our Culture for the Sake of Healthy and Stable Socioeconomic Development" by Comrade Nguyen Khanh, deputy prime minister;

—Article "Strive To Effect a Basic Change in the Cause of Education" by Comrade Tran Hong Quan, minister of education and training; and

—Article "Population and Employment—How To Make a Correct Explanation" by Comrade Nguyen Thi Than, chairman of the National Assembly's Committee for Social Problems.

"On the occasion of the 63d founding anniversary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, in this issue the journal also carries many articles on our party and Uncle Ho."

Technical Creativity Fund Established

BK1902064393 Hanoi VNA in English 0610 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi, 19 Feb (VNA)—A fund for technical creativity support has been set up to encourage and create conditions for talents in sciences and technologies to best perform their ability and capabilities.

The fund (Vifotec) was officially inaugurated here yesterday by the technological associations in coordination with the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers and the Ho Chi Minh Youth Union.

By decision of the prime minister, the fund is designated to mobilize the potentials of human, financial and material resources of organizations and individuals at home and abroad to support technological talents of all economic sectors and encourage them to contribute to the national process of renovation and development. So far, the fund has received financial contributions from many home and overseas organizations and individuals.

The inaugural ceremony were attended by Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, Vice President Nguyen Dinh Tu, secretary of the Party Central Committee and head of its Commission for Science and Education Tran Duc Luong, vice prime minister and Vo Nguyen Giap, honorary chairman of the fund.

Government Publishes Official Gazette

BK1902065793 Hanoi VNA in English 0613 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb.19—The government office has launched the government gazette by a decision on December 28, 1992 of the prime minister.

The gazette will carry documents of the National Assembly, its permanent committee and the president, resolutions and decisions of the government, decisions, decrees and instructions of ministries and offices under the central government aand other offices entrusted with state management in various branches and domains thoughout the country.

All documents published in the gazette have the validity of official documents. The gazette will be published twice monthly. In addition, there will be a recapitulation at the year's end.

Australia

Government Welcomes Talks on Regional Security

BK1802092893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0633 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] CANBERRA, Feb 18 (AFP)—Australia on Thursday welcomed an agreement between Japan and the six members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to hold high-level talks on regional security.

"We like the idea and we have responded positively to it," a Foriegn Ministry spokesman here said after a two-day meeting in Tokyo concluded with the announcement of the agreement Wednesday.

A communique issued after the Japan-ASEAN Forum to Tokyo did not say when and where the high-level talks would occur, but the Australian spokesman said:

"We understand there is a possibility of such a meeting taking place some time before the next ASEAN post-ministerial conference in Singapore in July."

Foreign ministers of the ASEAN countries—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand—will hold their annual conference in Singapore, then meet their "dialogue partners"—Australia, Canada, the European Community, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand and the United States on July 26-28.

The Japan-ASEAN Forum was the first held at vice-ministerial level and was unusual in going beyond economics to include political and regional security questions.

Participating officials said both sides were "committed" to the United Nations' plan to bring peace to Cambodia and was worried about the possibility that territorial claims in the South China Sea would prove a new flashpoint.

In Sydney meanwhile Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said that "what were rather radical propositions (about regional security) just three or four years ago have now become regional orthodoxy."

He continued: "Not only has security been specifically added to the ASEAN and ASEAN Post-Ministerial Conference agenda, but there are many proposals now abroad for enhancing that dialogue."

Evans also expressed optimism about the U.N. plan for Cambodia. Reviewing ten years of Labor government foreign policy for the Foreign Correspondents Association ahead of the March 13 general election in Australia, he said that the U.N. Transitional Authority for Cambodia "has already achieved quite remarkable results in securing the registration, almost without significant incident, of 4.6 million voters and the return...of more than 300,000 displaced people from the Thai border camps."

Patrol Boat Construction Contract Signed

BK1902070093 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Australia's Defense Minister Robert Ray has formally signed a contract to build five more patrol boats for Pacific nations. The vessels—three for Fiji and one each for Kiribati and Tuvalu—are to be built by (Transfield ASI) at South Coogee near Freemantle.

The firm has already built 15 vessels for Papua New Guinea, Tonga, the Solomon Islands, Micronesia, Vanuatu, the Marshall Islands, Cook Islands, and Western Samoa.

The latest order brings the total contract to Australian $128 million dollars since the program began in 1986.

Canberra Launches Satellite TV Service to Asia

BK1702123793 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 17 Feb 93

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] Australia's satellite television service to Asia has been launched tonight by the prime minister, Paul Keating. The service, ATVI [Australia Television International], is produced by the ABC [Australian Broadcasting Corporation] and is being transmitted from Darwin using an Indonesian satellite. The satellite programs will be available in the ASEAN countries, Indochina, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Southern China. The service will broadcast a mixture of general ABC programs and documentaries along with a specially-produced news service for Asia. This report by our foreign affairs correspondent Graeme Dobell.

[Begin recording] [Dobell] The editorial guidelines for the new TV service to Asia calls for it to provide independent and impartial news. The guidelines cited both ATVI and Radio Australia, which will also use one of the satellite channels, should be mindful of the concept of cultural intrusion but some people in the region could see the TV and radio services as a projection of economic power and Western mass media. The editorial guide says news to the Asia-Pacific will not be censored, but will be presented in a sensitive manner. The project director for ATVI, Bruce Donald:

[Donald] The guidelines, if you look at them in detail and they are public document, refer to issues like sensationalism, they refer to a manner in which one refers to the role of leaders in particular countries. I think the way in which perhaps that some of the adjectives that might be used about people, might be adjusted to...to make sure that we are not alienating the audience. I mean, no broadcaster wants to be in business from now on [words indistinct] the purpose of these guidelines is to be sensitive to the audience and to retain the audience rather than to be sensitive to the governments.

[Dobell] The ABC says that none of the 20 or so planned national services now available in Southeast Asia originates from the region. ATVI says it will be the first such broadcaster. The head of ATVI's news and current affairs service, (Makesh Makendarni), says news for the Asia-Pacific will be a key selling point.

[Makendarni] At the moment, what people in Asia are seeing (?I think) is essentially BBC World Service and CNN [Cable News Network]. That's very much America-centric and Europe-centric. We are going to give them a perspective from Australian eyes to Australian eyes as well as give the news both by our correspondents from the region. [voices of ABC correspondents from extracts of sample newscasts]

[Dobell] ATVI is to use the resources of Radio Australia and eight ABC bureaus throughout Asia to help produce its news service. Project Manager Bruce Donald says Asia is opening up to outside media. In his words, technology is driving policy.

[Donald] The very fact that this service begins is a result of a sea change in Indonesian policy. First, they deregulate the dish market; in other words, anybody in Indonesia now can put up a dish with that and you can get a license for it. Thus, leading to a growth and explosion of dishes throughout that region. Secondly and more importantly, an acknowledgement that international services emanating from outside the country are in a separate class and that the internal authorities will not seek to regulate their content under domestic laws. They're addressed to the region as a whole and not specifically targeting on Indonesia.

[Dobell] This service was set up with a once grant of $5.4 million from the Australian Government with the instruction that there will be no more cash from Canberra. ATVI has to pay its own way quickly. Its selling corporate sponsorship deals for programs other than news, selling excess of 16 hours a day of satellite time when the service won't be going to air, and it wants to sell rebroadcast rights to other TV stations in Asia.

[Donald] The ABC has undertaken to the federal government in consideration of the grant and we will continue the service for three years. And if it's to continue after that, it must be foreign self-funding, and it would have to be profitable.

[Dobell] There are three years to make a profit. You up against the BBC TV, you up against the American CNN, and the range of programs also coming out of Hong Kong. On what basis does Australia compete?

[Donald] I think we will be valued because we are not Northern Hemisphere, we are from the region. In that sense, we are closer and more attractive. It is one of our views on the rational for the service. Certainly we are high quality. ABC has a great tradition of high-quality broadcasting and we will be seeking that particular niche in the market. And thirdly, the news and information services have been structured, as I said earlier, to be directly relevant to our market. So, we think, we will enter a complex and competitive market as a new and valuable competitor with a good product and on that basis we simply will establish our business for ourselves and extra case for our product. [end recording]

News Producer Comments on New TV Broadcasts

OW1602143993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0915 GMT 16 Feb 93

[By Catharine Muno]

[Text] Sydney, Feb. 16 KYODO—Australian television will beam from Papua New Guinea to China from Wednesday [17 February], leading some people to question the effect it will have on politically sensitive countries.

Australian Television International (ATVI) will broadcast from an Indonesian satellite Palapa B2. Launched in 1991 by a Chinese Long March rocket, the Palapa satellite also broadcasts the American giant Cable News Network (CNN) into the Southeast Asian region. The new service is produced by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), a government-funded body. The satellite "footprint" reaches Australia's closest neighbors, who are often very distant in culture, religion and politics. The service will include news and current affairs focusing on Southeast Asia, as well as television shows which depict Australian culture.

Since ATVI will broadcast into countries which either suppress information or are offended by Western cultural attitudes, their policy is to "self-censor" their programs. In this way they hope to avoid offending countries such as Indonesia and China. This policy may conflict with ATVI's commitment not to censor the news. Executive Producer of News Prokash Mirchandani told KYODO NEWS SERVICE that he would not "run away from any stories."

Mirchandani said that as long as ATVI's reports are balanced, there would be no problems with the policy of free reporting. Yet Indonesia has criticized Australia's media for reporting politically sensitive issues. For example, Jakarta has made official complaints over reports about the island of East Timor, which was occupied by Indonesia in 1976.

Mirchandani said that ATVI would follow the policy of Radio Australia which has been broadcasting in the region for 53 years.

But Radio Australia has often been the target of criticism from various countries in this region, according to Dr Michael van Langenberg, who chairs the Department of Southeast Asian Studies at Sydney University.

"Radio Australia has probably come under more flack than the BBC and CNN," said van Langenberg.

Currently, nine of the 15 nations which fall under the satellite footprint have significant restrictions on the distribution of satellite dishes needed to pick up the service. Restriction of access to the dish may be difficult to maintain, according to Project Director Bruce Donald.

China has restricted but not banned the dishes. Donald suggests that people are finding innovative ways of receiving satellite television, so that the censorship is effectively side-stepped.

"We're hoping for a wok-led [as received] television revolution in China," he jokingly told the SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, a leading Australian daily.

Solomon Islands

Minister Reminds PNG Regime of Autonomy Promise

BK1902075793 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] The Solomon Islands' Home Affairs Minister Charles Dausabea has reminded the Papua New Guinea [PNG] Government that Prime Minister Paias Wingti promised some form of autonomy for Bougainville during the PNG general election last year.

Mr. Dausabea was responding to a call by Deputy Prime Minister Sir Julius Chan for the Solomon Islands to refrain from making the Bougainville conflict an issue in the Solomons election in June. Mr. Dausabea said he found Sir Julius' remarks puzzling and that he could not think of any reason why the Solomons Government should use Bougainville as an election issue.

Meanwhile, a Honiara newspaper, the SOLOMON STAR, says the commander of the rebel Bougainville Revolutionary Army, Sam Kauona, spent several days in Honiara last week. The newspaper quotes police sources as saying that Mr. Kauona had been kept under surveillance until last Friday after which security officials lost contact with him.

It added that the reason for the rebel leader's visit to Solomon Islands was not known. In another development, four Bougainvillians have been taken to Honiara for questioning after being arrested on Shortland Island on the Solomon side of the border with PNG.

Police sources say the men had been manufacturing shotguns apparently for use in Bougainville against PNG's security forces.

Vanuatu

President Leaves for New Zealand Medical Check

BK1902070893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0551 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Port Vila, Feb 19 (AFP)—Vanuatu President Fred Timakata was due to leave here Friday for New Zealand to undergo "a medical checkup", which sources indicated was for cancer.

Timakata, who was elected as head of state in 1989, underwent three weeks of medical treatment last August in Auckland and his condition at the time had been described by doctors as "serious".

A State House spokesman told AFP that Timakata would be undergoing two weeks of tests at the main city Auckland Hospital, but would be staying at a hotel.

The spokesman declined to reveal the nature of the president's sickness. But sources indicated that Timkata could be suffering from leukaemia.